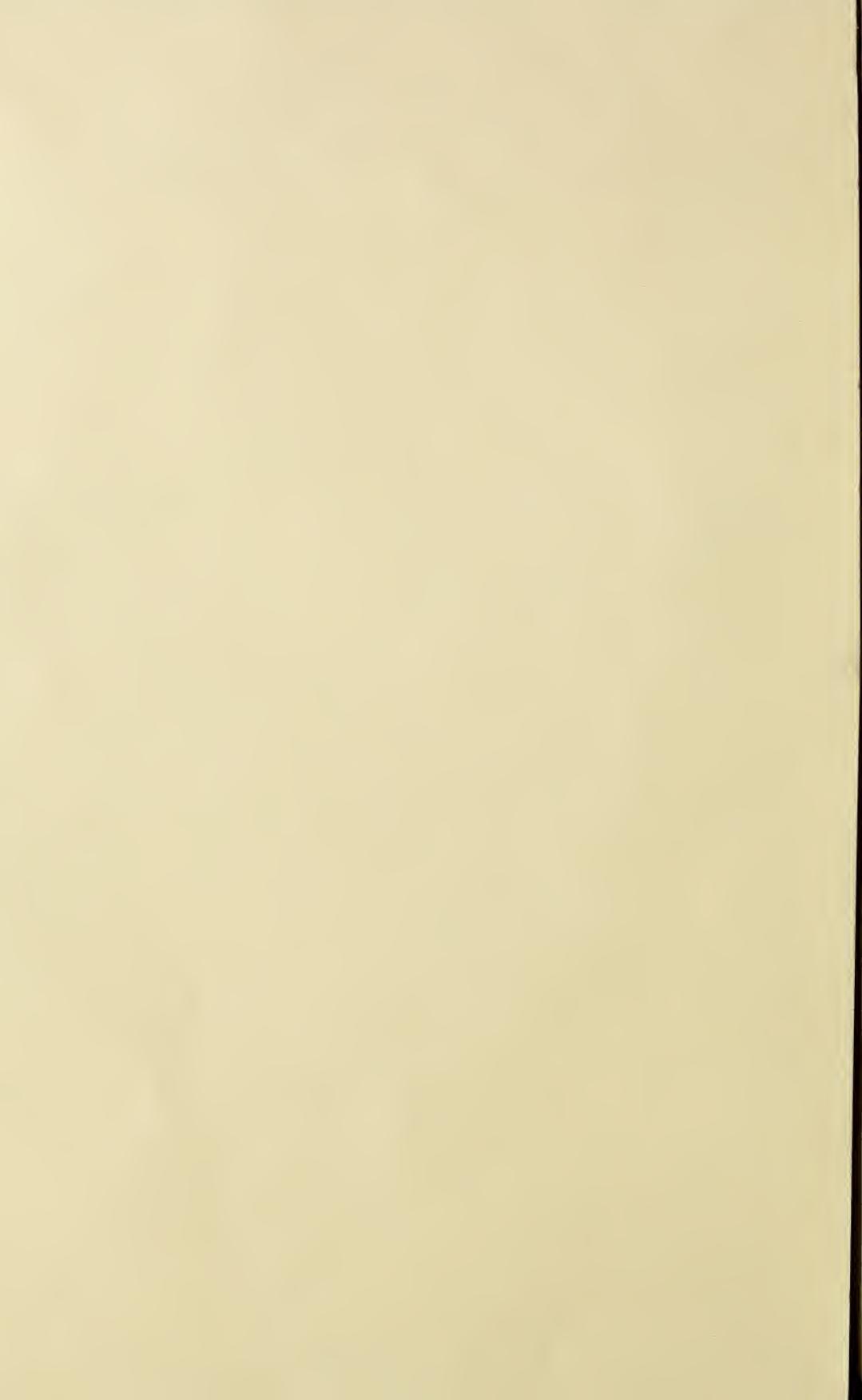


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THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

THE ART OF LIVING IN FRANCE. HOW THE INGREDIENTS FOR A LONG AND HAPPY LIFE ARE PREPARED AND USED. WINE FLOUR AND COFFEE—THE SECRET OF PROLONGING HUMAN LIFE, &c.

From our regular Correspondent.

12 Boulevard du Temple, Paris, Aug 27th, 1878

On Sunday August 25th, 112,612 persons entered the Exhibition gates, 100,702 by tickets. The trains continue to bring large numbers of people from the country and abroad. Excursionists arrive every Sunday in great numbers. Three excursion trains brought 1,200 to the Gare de l'Est, on Sunday, and another, from Ronen, 800, Paris, though what is called deserted at this moment, presents a very lively appearance. Every day the string of omnibuses hastening down from all directions to the Trocadors and Champ de Mars seems to grow denser. The ordinary means of locomotion to the spot—by train, tramcar boat, and omnibuses, with all the additions which the different companies have been able to make to their service—appear to have proved miserably insufficient. Private Omnibuses of all descriptions have been started from every point of Paris to make up for the deficiencies in the ordinary means of locomotion, and every proprietor of a suitable vehicle, seems to have found it a profitable speculation to paint "A l'Exposition" on it, and wait at any point until it is full.

In France, dyspepsia is extremely rare: in America every second man is more or less dyspeptic. The causes of this frequently are: miasmatic influences (which derange the liver), bad cooking, hasty eating, hot bread, the abuse of liquors, and the excessive use of liquids. In France there is no miasmatic influence to derange the liver, the cooking is generally good, no one eats hastily hot bread is regarded as poison, no one abuses strong liquors, and but little water is ever drank.

To these happy aids to digestion in France ought to be added the benign influence of the common table wine of the country, the wine which contains not more than from 8 to 12 per centum of alcohol. This kind of wine is certainly strongly tonic, and according to the opinion of Frenchmen, its regular and regulated use renders men more vigorous, more intelligent, more sociable, and more sober. The curse of drunkenness is only observed in the geographical zones and the social strata where wine is only drunk by exception. The man who is able to find on his table every day at dinner and supper half a bottle of red wine has no need of going to the tavern or the drinking saloon. But these remarks apply only to the red wines of France, to the wines of daily use, the wine which sustains while quenching thirst, the wine which is in fine, the real comrade of bread. The wines of Spain and Portugal intoxicate and brutalize, but neither quench the thirst nor satisfy any reasonable desire of the body; the wines of western Germany create acidity and thirst, and are, therefore, in no sense hygienic. It is only red wine of France which is both moral and logical, and fit for daily use of every man.

If flour is considered on principle as a question of hygiene, independent of what the public demands, I should say that the best system of grinding is that which disaggregated the round and popular molecules of the grain of wheat without pulverizing them. Not only is the flour better which is composed of separated instead of crushed particles, but to separate them is the easiest, the most elementary, and the cheapest mode of grinding. Both science and practice condemn the crushing process, and yet this remains the most in use. The quality of the grain is due in the first place, much of the quality of the flour. The bakers of the present prefer flour made from white, tender wheat, because it makes the whiter bread, and as this wheat is easier ground than the harder kind of wheat, the miller also prefers it. But the baker loses by it because this very white

flour contains less glutens, and therefore produces less bread. The public also lose by it because it is less nutritious, less rich in elementary principles and more of it must be consumed to produce the necessary amount of nourishment to the body. The fact that the hard grains of wheat are richer in gluten than the white and tender grains is admitted by science and verified by practice. And, so far as France is concerned, this demand of the millers and bakers for the white and tender grain has almost excluded the better grain from agriculture. So too, I hear often in France in these days of the wheat being frozen, an account scarcely heard of at a period when the harder grain was more in vogue.

The flour of Austria takes the highest rank at the exhibition. The jury awarded to the French manufacturers a medal of gold, the same as to the manufacturers of Austria; but the bakers and the public do not hesitate a moment in giving their judgment in favor of the Austrian flour. The Austrian system of manufacturing will be introduced at once into France, and will prove a money-making enterprise to whoever will introduce it into the United States and Canada; for however inferior it may be in healthful qualities to the coarser flour, it will yet always command a large sale as an article of luxury.

France has a special reputation for the preparation of coffee for the table. The grain used in this country comes for the most part from Brazil. The best specimens probably comes from Arabia and Egypt, but only in small quantities, and the world hereafter will undoubtedly be supplied for the most part from Brazil. The grains from these three countries are well represented at the Exhibition. Coffee is prepared in France for the table by a system of distillation in a small quantity of water, which is now understood and adopted more or less in all civilized countries. It is adulterated often with chicory, acorns, gray peas, carbonized beets, roasted rye and barley and other substances. Economy, of course, is at the bottom of these adulterations, but the pretexts of taste, color, and even of hygiene are urged with earnestness as our excuse. But coffee ought to be, and is, drunk alone by those who understand its real hygiene effects. Its use is regarded by those who have well observed these effects as positively conducive to the prolongation of human life. It acts by moderating the force of the circulation: It blunts the biting action of oxygen or carbon. It calms the movements of organic dis-assimilation, and thus causes to be used all sorts of old material which otherwise would be hurried too soon out of the body. The sleeplessness it sometimes produces is not a

diseased or pathological condition, but rather the establishment of an absolute equilibrium, which reposes the various organs of the body as much as if the eyes were closed in sleep. Its action is not to be assimilated to such medicinal anodynes, which also retard the circulation and the elimination of elementary particles, for these are followed by an astringency, a nausea, and a collapse, which constitute a pathological condition, and they are therefore, opposed to health. The great secret of the prolongation of human life is the establishment by healthy means of an equilibrium in the functions of the body, and it is certain that coffee does not attribute in a healthy way to this end. It cannot be used in all climates to the same advantage; nor by all persons, nor in indifferent quantities. A careful observation should preside always as its use, if we wish to obtain its best effects on health.

PERE.

BEET SUGAR.

BY GEO. MAY POWELL.

The following paper by Geo. May Powell on Beet Sugar, was read at the regular meeting of the Agricultural Section of the American Institute, Aug. 27, New York City: "Divide and Conquer" is a favorite maxim in military and in political contests. The beet sugar industry has been massed about with mis-leading statements of ponderous grand totals of expenses necessary to carry it on. The heavy capitals of the old world were known to be competent to cope with these conditions. Our own people, however, have shrunk from incurring the heavy total expense of the whole industry at every point where its establishment in part, if not complete, would be desirable. From \$50,000 to \$250,000 have been supposed to be required to begin even at any locality where people might wish to establish beet sugar making. It is not however necessary that sufficient capital should be massed together to cover the expense of both the agricultural and the manufacturing departments of the industry. It is susceptible of a division which will make it conquest for our country at an early day, much more practicable than would be possible without such division. As beet sugar is chemically identical with cane sugar, the refineries at all our great commercial centers for the latter, are equally good for the former. Refineries are the major cost of the manufactures element involved. Their cost is already to a great extent provided for as above suggested. Statements recently current in the newspapers that the simple

machineries needed to make apple cider, and to boil down maple sap, are sufficient to make crude sugar from fresh beets, to send to refineries, may be received with some question. We are specifically advised by experienced beet sugar makers, that these operations are too imperfect to be profitable. As far as we know the record also shows that over a quarter of a century of experimenting in making sugar from corn stalks has failed to produce an article which the polariscope will not prove to be uncrystallizable sugar. We mention these points to prevent our being so much divided on this great subject as to be conquered by it, instead of conquering it. The cost of all that is needed to make unrefined sugar from both fresh beets and dried beets have been very much reduced of late years in Europe; but more of this in future papers. Drying kilns are the most hopeful means of reduction of cost at present. Mr. Gennert, formerly at Chastworth, Illinois, and now in charge of the best sugar work in Maine, writes me that a kiln costing \$1,000 will dry from twenty to thirty tons of beets in twenty-four hours. Five and a quarter tons of good beets, properly dried, will make a ton of dry beet, containing a half ton of unrefined sugar. Therefore kilns scattered over the agricultural sections of the country, hundreds of miles from the sugar factories, greatly reduce the number of factories demanded. Mr. Gennert also says that he has good dried beets in his possession which are three years old. The drying kiln consequently seem to be the key to the manufacturing part of the question. The agricultural operations connected therewith are the main point; and "how may we know where we can raise beets containing a sufficient per centage of saccharine matter to make the industry pay?" is the focus of that point. We believe we can make this practically clear without any puzzling chemical or other scientific terms not understood by the average farmer. The answer is this: Wherever a man can raise, what in quantity would be called a good crop of common potatoes, which are of a quality that are dry and mealy when boiled or roasted, he can raise beets for sugar making to advantage.—We believe, as we suggested in a former paper, that the chief reason for agitating this subject, is not the vast material gain to our country of keeping gold from being sent abroad for sugar, several times as great in amount as the entire annual yield of all our gold mines. The transcendently greater issue is furnishing work to millions of unskilled as well as skilled laborers, and thereby, measurably saving many men, women and children from want and crime. This agitation, for the latter season, is the work the Marggraf Council has undertaken.

It is, we think, far more a moral than a material issue. Scattering practical facts among the people through the medium of the press. Memorializing the state legislatures to make appropriations of not less than from \$70,000 to several times such a sum by each of the Northern States for the development of this industry in their own borders.—These and such as these are the points aimed at, as we understand it, by the Council.

The soil and climate of a large majority of our whole country is adapted to the good work. From the Canada line almost down to the Gulf of Mexico, good sugar beets can be raised. Beets with quite as large per cent of sugar as those now forming the basis of profitable sugar business on a gigantic scale in France, Germany, Austria, Russia, Sweden, and elsewhere in Europe. The mountainous western parts of the Carolinas, and the eastern portions of Kentucky and Tennessee, as well as Maryland and the Virginias are perhaps quite as good as the New England and Middle States. The valley of the Missouri we believe to be superior to the Mississippi Valley. In much, if not all these regions, beet sugar is soon to become one of the greatest of our national industries.

GARDEN WORK.

Garden Work for October.

The gardener has little preparatory work to do, he is engaged in closing up the labors of the year in his garden. He can set out cabbage and lettuce plants as directed last month. Endives should be tied up to blanch. Asparagus beds should be dressed by cutting off the growth, sowing plentifully salt, and add a covering of long manure then return whatever asparagus growth, freed from seeds, and the grass or weeds that had been cut off, upon the manure spread and leave it as a mulch for winter.

Shallots, Garlic, Chives, Onions intended for seed, may all be set out.

Sea Kale.—Sow seeds now for next year's use.
Celery.—Earth up for blanching.

Raspberries, Currants, Gooseberries, Strawberries and Blackberries.—Make new plantations of all of these, or of such as may be required for next year.

Strawberry beds.—Dress and keep clean of runners these beds and encourage the growth of the plants all you can.

Look well to the destruction of caterpillars and every insect which is inimical to small fruits, and see that the dwarf pears and other small trees are freed from insects, broken limbs, &c., and worked about the trunks.

Agricultural Calender.

Farm Work for October.

In saving the crops and sowing grain and grass seeds for another year, the farmer and planter will find his time well occupied, and also in doing many jobs that ought to be done this month.

We presume the corn is all cut off and set in shocks in rows wide apart, and the rye sown. That portion intended for wheat, ought to be well plowed and harrowed with a dressing of some fertilizer. It will be ready then for the wheat to be drilled in, or by using that best of all drills—the *Champion*—the fertilizer and grass seeds may be sown with the wheat at one operation. We confess however, that we do not like the practice of sowing wheat after corn. If no fertilizer be used, we strongly advise sowing broadcast after the wheat is sown, one bushel of plaster and four bushels of salt well mixed together on each acre.

The tobacco crop ought to be housed as soon as possible, to be safe from frost and to have the land ready for the wheat as soon as possible. When the plants have been small enough the last of September or first of this month to let a cultivator pass along the rows without injuring the leaves of the plants, we have sown wheat, cultivated it to put in the grain and serve as a working of the tobacco, and have succeeded in making a good crop of wheat. One year the ground was green with the growing wheat before we cut off the tobacco and we had a large yield of grain the next harvest.

TURNIPS AND OTHER ROOT CROPS.

Keep these crops free of weeds and the land light.

BUCKWHEAT.

If not already harvested, do so before frost, or as soon as about half the heads turn blackish-brown. It shatters its grain very easily, and must therefore be handled gently, and carted to the farm on a large sheet to save what is shattered by the motion of the wagon when hauling it from the field. It should be flailed or threshed out on a clean plank floor to keep it as free from grit and dust as possible. This is a valuable grain, and more of it should be grown than has been done in the Middle States for years past.

STOCK OF ALL KINDS.

All stock should be attended to well this month, as they feel the change from summer to coming winter, and they should be protected from the cold rains we may expect during this month. Young

colts and calves ought to have a plenty of tender grass and a shelter to go under of nights and in bad weather. If not good grass, they should have a light feed of oats or mill-feed morning and night. Fattening hogs ought to be fed well on new corn twice a day. Milch cows should have green corn fodder at night, and pumpkins, vegetables or fruit in the morning to keep up the flow of milk as this is the best month for packing winter butter.

ORCHARDS.

Save all your apples—the speckt or decaying ones give to the cows and pigs. The full ripe and small ones make into cider. Hickock's cider mill is cheap, and a first class mill for grinding and pressing. The best apples should be carefully picked and barrelled and put under a cool shed or in an airy room. This fruit is scarce every where this year except in New England, and will command a large price this winter. Even dried fruit will be high, owing to scarcity of fruit and increasing demand at home and abroad.

Permit us again to call your attention to the propriety, indeed to the absolute necessity of planting out orchards and continuing to increase the number of your fruit trees of all kinds of fruits, both large and small fruits, standards and dwarfs. This is a necessity if you desire to give your families health and luxury, to increase the profits of your farm, and to add to the value of it if you want at any time to sell. Fruit is always in demand, and always will be in increasing demand, because the taste for it is greater each year—population is increasing and the foreign market just opened for fruits will go on enlarging until we shall be unable to meet its demands and at same time furnish home supplies. Only think of it, the narrow peninsular, formed of a part of the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Delaware, disposing of this year 1,000,000 boxes of peaches at \$1,000,000, and each box or basket containing not over three pecks. Apples in Baltimore are now selling in Baltimore at 8 cents to \$1.00 per bushel, and peaches have never been less the whole season than 90 cents to \$1.00 per peck for good peaches and for indifferent ones 60 to 80 cents per peck. These facts should stimulate every one who owns an acre of ground to plant some fruit trees. It is a product which never should be wasted; if there be some years such abundance that it will not pay to send it to market, let it be dried or canned at home, ground up and made into cider or brandy, and if this cannot be done, it will repay all it has cost in fattening hogs or in the increase of milk if fed to the cows.

This is the best month for doing this good work. Set out apples, peaches, pears, plums, cherries and let them be all of the best sorts that are suitable to your locality.

AGRICULTURAL JOURNALS.

Their Influence and Value.

A PAPER READ AT THE AMER. INST. FARMERS' CLUB BY CONRAD WILSON.

It will be found, on examination, that most all the large products in hasbandry are obtained by farmers who are accustomed to read and think, and who are not only wise enough to profit by reading, but who select the best part of their material from books and papers devoted to their interest, and in which they find recorded the facts and experience of successful men.

That the real progress of agriculture is in this way greatly promoted by the influence of the press is no longer an open question, for although it is undoubtedly true that the products of husbandry are directly and mainly the outcome of manual labor, yet the quality and amount of those products are largely determined by superiority of mental force, and by the kind of intelligence that comes from books and journals.

Let not the tillers of the soil, therefore, blindly imagine that physical development alone is sufficient to secure maximum crops, and a margin of profit. Let them bear to mind that a still higher power has its seat in the brain, from which physical development derives all its value. That the silent energy of thought is quietly doing its work over the continent from week to week, and from year to year, and that this free, earnest and unselfish thought, while continually achieving grand results, is also continually putting them on record for the benefit of all.

Thus it is that while we discover on one hand a grand army of thoughtful workers, everywhere intent on developing new and original facts, and new fruits of experience, we may also find, in the background of the picture, another army of workers, who are also thinkers of the highest type—a countless array of vigorous and enterprising journals, always ready to seize and appropriate, to expound and improve these new and valuable results of practical farming, and then to scatter them broad-cast through the land to shed light in dark places, and pour new fertility into sterile soils.

How is it possible then not to see that the pen as well as the plow, the type-setter as well as the planter, the editor at his desk not less than the proprietor of a thousand acres, are all instrumental in propelling this great industry of the country, and have jointly contributed to make our agriculture all that it now is.

In confirmation of this view, there are many shrewd and practical men who have discovered in their own experience, and who do not hesitate to emphasize the fact, that the best investment they have yet made in their business is the money paid for agricultural papers, and who also make it a point to read them carefully, and to write for them often. These are the men who win the surest prizes of husbandry, whose success proves that farming can be made to pay, not only in the broadest and highest sense of the word, but also in the money aspect, and whose example kindles the faith, and animates the zeal of other farmers even in remote and unfavored sections.

So clearly and palpably have the journals of this class demonstrated their value, that it is often possible in passing through a rural district to discover by unmistakable signs the farms at which such papers are taken, and where they have found a welcome home; and it is easy to see that in the presence of these sheets of useful knowledge, the whole aspect of the farm is changed, and all the results improved. Manures and fertilizers are more efficient, as well as more abundant; the latest and best methods are adopted; a new impulse is given to vegetation; the very roots of the crop strike deeper, and spread wider than before, and even the meadows assume a brighter shade of green, and the cereal grains a deeper tinge of gold. And, finally, as crowning evidence of what is here claimed for the influence of the press, along with this new vigor of vegetation, and more abundant yield, we find also a reduction of cost that is even more important than all the rest.

It would be easy to refer by name, if it were not invidious, to a score of such papers, in either of which a single number could be pointed out, which for intrinsic value is worth, to a shrewd farmer, the subscription of a lifetime. Even single passages could be referred to in various journals, in which the facts compressed in a few lines are worth more to an intelligent practical man than a ton of guano, or an acre of land; for the acre of land is confined to one unchanging spot, and the ton of guano admits of only one application. But the great facts of experience in farming are not bounded by an acre, and do not expire in one application. On the contrary, they are developed by use, and grow by repetition. They spread and multiply from farm to farm, and from year to year, until a continent is made richer by them, and posterity hails them as a treasure.

Now farmers, this is not a long sermon, but it has a moral and a purpose, and the meaning for each individual is this. If you are not already a subscriber to an agricultural paper, lose no time in securing the benefit of such journal, for you are certainly losing every year far more than the cost, and sooner or later you will find this out. If you are already taking one or more such papers, don't be satisfied till you make the number three or four. Depend upon it, farmers are too generally under a mistake on this subject, and it is time to take up a new departure.

The timidity shown by many in applying a sum so limited as two or three dollars to obtain the priceless knowledge, on which depends the whole value and final profit of their business, is more than surprising. The trifling sums, often lavished without a thought on objects comparatively of little or no value, if applied to such a purpose as this would be sufficient to supply a variety of journals and valuable books, that would at once create a new atmosphere of thought in the house, and, while thus rounding out the education of the family, would also enlarge the yield and the profit of harvests to come.

This is no mere picture of the imagination, for I have more than once seen the proofs of it, and have heard the admission made by practical men.

Does it not then, farmers, clearly devolve on you to encourage and sustain the generous efforts of a press that is everywhere working in your in-

terest, and lighting up your future with the experience of the past? I know that many of you so regard it. But what shall we say to those who excuse themselves by finding fault with the defects of the press, and who allege that among so many imperfections they do not know what paper to take?

To all such let me frankly say that this is not a reason, but simply an evasion. You do not expect perfection in anything human; then why exact it in the case of a farmer's journal? If you could really find an ideal journal, absolutely faultless and perfect, it would be cheap at \$10 a year, while the present range of prices is from one dollar to \$2.50, and it is safe to say that, taking them as we now find them, there is hardly one in the whole number that is not worth many times its cost if rightly used.

The mere fact that a paper of this class is not perfect is the last reason in the world for neglecting it. If you have discovered the defects of your local paper, you are the very man to help improve it, by taking hold of it with a will. If you will order it at once, paying for a year in advance, you will be sure to read it, and after reading a few numbers you will find time occasionally to write for it. But don't be afraid to criticise and make suggestions. And, above all, send in new facts, giving your own experience and that of your neighbors. In this way your example will kindle a contagion throughout your town and county, and you will have the satisfaction of improving your local paper, and extending its circulation, while largely increasing the sources of pleasure in your family, and the sources of profit on your farm.

Let us now see, in conclusion, what would be the broad national result if a new and decided impulse could be given to the circulation of these journals. It is not, of course, easy to say with accuracy what is the present sum total of subscribers to such papers, including as they do a considerable list of Weekly editions of Daily papers, which give ample space as well as liberal effort and outlay to this great and growing industry. Probably the nearest estimate now attainable would make the entire circulation of the Agricultural Press from one and a half to two million subscribers. The next census will probably show that the number of proprietary farmers is not far from seven millions, and the entire farming population from twenty to twenty-five millions. But if we assume the present total circulation even at two millions, and the farming population at twenty millions, this still shows a vast and dreary domain lacking the priceless knowledge which a well conducted press is fitted to impart.

Now suppose it were possible before the close of the present decade to double the circulation of the agricultural press. Who does not see that the new flood of light thus supplied would be an unspeakable benediction to a countless host of toilers, who sadly need such an illumination, which would not only impress on them a change of character, but would immensely increase the product of their farms. But is it possible thus to double this circulation? Probably not in so brief a period. But one thing is certain: If the right means are used, there is a possible increase for these periodicals not far short of the ratio here stated, and the

prize is certainly worth the effort, not only of every farmer, but of every journal in the country. The means for gaining this end include various conditions, but must be left for future discussion.

It would be easy to show that if the suggestions of Mr. Dodge were carried out, for doubling the total product of our farms, or if even one half that increase were attained, the result would be sufficient to support the population of the globe for an entire year. It will be an immense stride in this direction whenever the farmers of the country shall rally to sustain the press, which is the very life blood of their prosperity, and give to its circulation such an increase as its importance demands.

Beet Sugar Industry in Maine.

Every progressive farmer agrees with us that our needs can only be met by better, more thorough, and higher farming. It is a matter of little consequence as to the acreage which is put in, in this or that grain, in this or that crop; it matters very little how much a farmer raises on his farm—the important question is how much he raises per acre. The farmer who raises one hundred bushels of wheat on four acres will become a well to do, independent farmer, if not a rich man, if he does not meet with extraordinary misfortune; but the farmer who raises one hundred bushels of wheat on twelve acres is on the direct road to poverty and undoubtedly will become poor if he lives long enough and raises wheat enough. The same holds good with grass and other crops. The farmer who raises two and a half tons of hay on one acre will do well especially if he feeds it on his farm; while he who raises five tons on six to eight acres will have to fight poverty in his old days. Amongst hundreds of farmers there will be hardly one who disagrees with the above theory, but how many do we find who do their to carry it into practice?

Anything that will lead the farmer directly towards higher farming and a more rational investment of hard labor ought to be welcomed, and this undoubtedly is the reason why our best farmers have looked with such favor upon the introduction of a new industry in this State, which is inseparable from high and rational farming. Not only hundreds but thousands of farmers have taken hold of raising sugar beets on short notice, on ill prepared land and take in the season, and if we make due allowance for these disadvantages we must admit that the result is all we had a right to expect and even better. We cannot deny in the present state of depression that it would be of great consequence to give to nearly half a million willing and strong hands remunerative employment; to retain one hundred millions of dollars in gold annually in the country, which would go a great way

to bring the good old times back; if not the first year certainly very soon. But the greatest benefit the introduction of the beet sugar industry will bring to the country is improved farming, rational and remunerative farming. The cultivation of root crops, but especially sugar beets, means not "cut and cover" plowing a furrow 16 to 18 inches wide and a few inches deep, it teaches subsoiling, it teaches manuring. It is difficult to tell whether high farming in Europe has fostered the beet sugar industry or whether this industry has stimulated high farming; the fact is they go hand in hand, and for this reason the successful introduction of this will be a blessing to the farmer and through him to the country at large, because without agricultural prosperity, no lasting prosperity of any other kind is possible. We find these theories exemplified even the first year, when every farmer looked upon beet raising as a mere experiment. On good land well prepared and in good heart the beet crop looks very fine, it will give a good yield and pay the farmer well; but on worn out poorly prepared land the crop looks poor and will yield but little, land which can hardly reproduce the seed of buckwheat cannot be expected to produce a fine root crop. There is no law which applies to a beet crop which is not applicable to every other crop, only it shows it in a more glaring light.

The sugar beet crop this year shows how much more independent the thorough farmer is of changes and extremes of weather than he who has cropped his land to death. On good worked and well manured land the sugar beets have hardly shown a wilted leaf during the excessive hot and dry spell early in July, but on poor land they have absolutely perished though they came up well.

The most difficult task for a farmer is to produce sufficient and cheap manure. With plenty of manure it is no great art to raise a good crop of almost any thing—without it is almost impossible. To produce cheap and plenty of manure it requires, plenty of cattle, and few of our hard working farmers can wait for years to have the calf become a fat steer, the farmer has to live and so the calf has to go to the butcher. More than anything else the farmer needs to raise a cash yielding crop. There is where the beet sugar industry will help the farmer in more than one way. There are many beet fields in Maine from the seashore to Aroostook county which will yield from 15 to 20 tons of beets per acre, which means from \$60 to \$80 cash. The tops are at least an equivalent to half a ton of the best hay and each field which yields 15 to 20 tons of beets in cash value, will yield twelve tons of pumice of those beets at a feeding value of at least two and a half tons of hay. This most valuable cattle feed ought to go back to the beet raisers who can well afford after making \$60 to \$80 per acre in cash, to feed this pumice to his mulch cows and young stock and thus lay a most substantial foundation to prosperity. The beet pumice fed with corn fodder, hay, &c., will give most valuable manure and plenty of it, and when eventually the sugar factories are located in the country villages where their proper place is and the farmer has besides the advantages here enumerated, also the advantage of taking scum from the sugar works to his fields; then and then only has he reached the point at which he can justly say

sugar beet growing enriches the land. Then the European proverb will be applicable:—"The more beets the more meat, the more meat the more grain, and the more of the three the more money."

To judge from present appearances the Maine Beet Sugar Company will begin sugar making about the first day of October, and from the first day they have about sixty trees of the very best cattle feed, and continue to have this quantity of feed every day as long as the factory has beets to work. This feed will be sufficient for about two thousand milch cows or steers daily. What is to be done with it? Are the farmers of Maine willing to feed their stock during the long dreary winter months on dry hay and ice water, and allow the best of feed to be shipped to Boston, or worse even, go to destruction? Several railroad companies have very generously offered to transport this feed back to the farmer from whom it came at the nominal price of 50 cents per ton. The Maine Beet Sugar Company offers to return this feed to the farmers who supplied the beets at a trifling charge, barely sufficient to pay for the handling. It may therefore be confidently expected that many farmers will try to find out for themselves the value of this beet pumice. So far the beet crop looks promising and though some farmers did fail, others succeeded so well that some who raised only one acre this year have already offered to raise ten another year. From nearly every State in the Union inquiries come how the Maine farmers are doing with the sugar beets. Oregon and California finding their wheat fields giving out already are amongst the most anxious to introduce a relation of crops, and if all the friends of the enterprize will send in their experience with this year's crop it will be systemized, put in book form and published for the benefit of those who wish to avail themselves of the knowledge gained by the superior enterprize and experience of Maine farmers.

ERNEST TH. GENNERT.

Wheat Drilling and Hoeing.

I notice that all of our best average wheat crops per acre are sown with wide spaces. Many stop each alternate seed-bar of the drill. I placed some of my wheat in the ground in that way last fall, and it is growing very nicely, the spaces being sixteen inches; I hoed it with a long cultivator, the same as in corn, and trust to be able to give a good report at harvest. Wheat never looked better with me than it does now.

I see in the Lancaster *Farmer* that Levi Groff hoed a field that averaged sixty-one and fifteen-sixtieths bushels per acre, and hear from good authority, and from men that know, that J. M. Hedges, of York, Pa., hoed a field planted with wide spaces, and harvested seventy bushels per acre.

I believe if our agricultural editors would show to farmers the benefit of placing their wheat in wider spaces, and hoeing it, there would not be only a saving of half the seed, but there would be a large increase of crop. No wheat should be

drilled with less than twelve-inch spaces, and every experiment that has been tried with sixteen inches has been very successful. How easily a farmer could try the experiment by simply closing each alternate tooth in his drill for a few acres, or for a few bouts!

I would like to hear from you and obtain your views on the subject of wider spaces.

A. B. T.

Brandon, Mich.

We believe in drilled wheat, and hoeing wheat, and have devoted considerable space in the *Scientific Farmer* to the advocacy of ROOT PRUNING growing crops of corn and wheat. We believe that, as our correspondent says, there is a saving of seed, and we also believe that there is a great gain in quantity and quality of crop, by checking the growth of the plant *at the proper season*, through the action of the cultivating tooth in breaking the roots and pulverizing the soil. This theory is receiving acceptance, and the practice is securing converts to the theory from all directions. Yes, farmers; hoe your winter wheat in the spring several times, but not after the bloom appears. By using the drill for sowing, and an attachment to the drill for hoeing, much additional crop can be secured, if testimony and evidence prove anything.—*Scientific Farmer.*

Delays and Dangerous.

There is no class of people to whom this old adage applies with more propriety than to farmers. There is a whole page of sayings of similar import. "A stitch in time saves nine," "Once done never forgotten." "Never put off until to-morrow what can be done to-day," etc. all of which are intended to impress the idea of punctuality.

If one arises in the morning, confronted by the fact that there are a half dozen things awaiting his attention, that must be done before the work for the day can be commenced, it is at once an annoyance, and a delay results probably in carrying over to the next day a portion of the task assigned for this and making everything go the harder for the friction.

The best time to do anything is at the first convenient opportunity that offers after the doing becomes a necessity: We would not have a man leave a hay field, and go a mile or two for tools and appliances to replace a broken tooth in a rake—but we would have him replace it before the rake was again taken into the field. A strap or a string may serve to repair a broken harness for the time, but the farmer should no more think of

continuing its use in an unsafe condition than the sailor should think of putting to sea for a new voyage with the jury masts he had rigged with which to make port after his spars had been carried away by a gale.

Neither should he neglect to keep close attention to everything about the premises. That gate post is an inch from the perpendicular to day—not sufficient to attract general notice. It will require but a little labor now to put it in place. Don't wait till it leans six inches and the gate touches the ground, requiring much effort to swing it. A loose nut may be discovered by an examination, which, if left to itself, will result in a breakdown at a very inconvenient time and place. The horse's shoe may be tightened now, if the necessity be observed, with little trouble; delay may cause serious injury.

To do things promptly and at the earliest moment, will make just the difference of allowing you to drive your work ahead in accordance with your proposed plans—or to be driven to do your work at a disadvantage. If you can choose your time and plow a field when it is just in the right condition, you gain—if you are compelled to plow when either too wet or too dry, because other work is driving and you have no choice, you will lose—and so with every department of farm work.

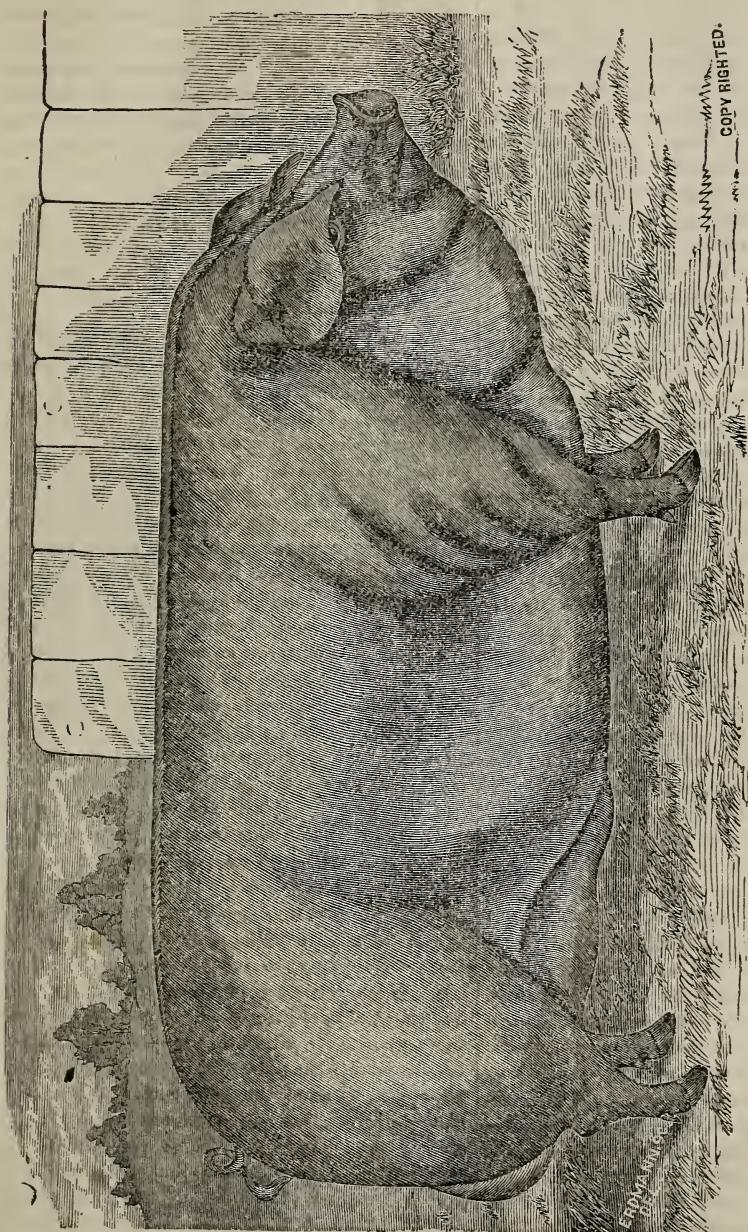
If you will keep ahead; well—if not your work will keep ahead of you and when the season is over, you will have labored more and accomplished less than your neighbor who has learned that delays are dangerous, and does everything in season.—*Rural New Yorker.*

Eggs for Colts.

Mr Rowe Emery tells in the *MAINE FARMER* how he raised a premium colt, after weaning time as follows:

"I took him to the stable Oct 23, 1877, and commenced to give him grain. I gave him one quart per day for the first month. I increased his oats each month, so that in March I was giving him eight quarts every day. The third month I commenced to give him six eggs per day, two mixed with each feed. He weighed, Oct. 24, 1877, 300 pounds. This morning June 3, 1868, he weighed 587 pounds, and stands 14 hands high. I took the eggs away from him the first day of April, and commenced to cut his oats down the first of May. I am now giving him four quarts of oats per day and all the grass he will eat. I keep him in a room 10 feet square, cut his grass for him and give him a halter exercise twice a day, and I think he is now growing faster than ever before. He has consumed from Oct. 24, 1877, to June 1, 1878, 32 bushels of potatoes and 1,200 pounds of hay."—*Prairie Farmer.*

LIVE STOCK.



PURE DUROC, OR JERSEY RED BOAR,
AS BRED BY W. ATTLEE BURPEE & CO., PHILADELPHIA.

Carefully Drawn and Engraved Especially for Burpee's Breeder's Manual.

Duroc or Jersey Red Swine.

The following article from *The American Agriculturist* gives a good description of this breed of swine, which is rapidly growing in great demand:

"The farmers of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and parts of New York, have long been acquainted with a breed of hogs known as 'Jersey Reds.' These have been a very favorite kind of swine on account of their fine small bone; long, deep, round body; good feeding qualities, and hardy constitution. Some years ago these excellent hogs were taken in hand by some breeders more than usually careful, and have since been considerably improved, so that, at the present time, this breed will challenge comparison with any other whatever for all the valuable points which make swine desirable or profitable. We have noticed of late that these red hogs have become widely distributed, a large sale of them having occurred in Kentucky, where they were favorably received by the very critical buyers of that well-known breeding State. At the National Swine Breeders' Convention, held at Indianapolis in 1871, it was decided to call this breed the Duroc, and it is now so called by those who give attention to it. The history of the breed dates back over 50 years, or to 1823, when Mr. H. Kelsey, owner of the noted horse Duroc, imported a pair of red hogs from England. A Mr. Frink, of Saratoga Co., N. Y., procured a boar pig of litter from this pair, and named it Duroc, after the famous horse hence the origin of the name, under which the breed has become popular in that locality. The pigs themselves are reasonably supposed to be related to the Berkshire; the old Berkshire, were frequently reddish, or sandy-colored, and spotted with black, and had lopped ears. The Durocs may be properly considered to more nearly represent the old Berkshires, than the trim, smooth, prick-eared, blue-black and white-faced and white-footed modern Berkshire, as these points are all brought from foreign blood; while the red hogs have never lost their ancestral character, except so far as it has been improved by selection and good breeding. At least this is claimed for these hogs by their admirers. Their history all through tells a story of quick feeders, with necessarily quiet dispositions; hardy, healthy, with great capacity for flesh and excellent quality of meat when dressed. They take naturally to grass, and may be wintered on hay in great part, as they eat it as readily as sheep do. The animal given on the preceding page is 19 months old, had no grain from April until Sept. 24th, when he was sent to the fair, weighing then 476 pounds. On Oct. 24th, or 30 days afterwards,

he weighed 570, gaining 94 pounds, being fed solely on raw corn-meal and water. He is 32 inches high, 5 feet 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, and girths 6 feet. His belly reaches to within 3 inches of the ground when standing. In a recent case, 52 of these hogs, fattened at Salem, N. J., at 18 months old, averaged, when dressed, 523 pounds; the lightest weighed 460 pounds. With such a character as this, the Duroc is certainly worthy of being known everywhere."

HORSE BREEDING.

BY D. Z. EVANS, JR.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Breeding horses is one of the most seductive things a person can engage in, for, while the profits, when breeding for "trotters," are so very uncertain in most cases, the high prices obtained for a few fleet ones are sure to induce others to strive for the prize. There is, however, a great deal of pleasure attending this business, notwithstanding the uncertainty of profit, for there is nothing which pleases most people as much as the happy possessor of one or more good horses. While so many of the senses are gratified by owning and driving a fine horse, it represents considerable value, and must have commensurate attention, both in regard to food and care as well as in management, else it will be sure to depreciate on the owners hands. The young men, as a rule, especially of this state, (Maryland) and of Delaware, where I am better acquainted than I am further south, who reside on farms must have their fast horse. The mere fact of having a fast horse does not argue against them, but then a "good stepper" may mislead them into supposing they have a "Dexter" or a "Goldsmith Maid," and they spend much money, as well as valuable time in trying to develop that rate of speed which the animal does not possess, while idle, shiftless ways are often engendered, which may prove a barrier to success in any occupation they may adopt in after life. We do not wish to discountenance the possession or breeding of good, fast horses, by no means, for we own and breed some ourselves, but we do protest against permitting the infatuation to be so powerful as to carry anyone away with the one idea that they have a "trotting phenomenon," and then stake their all on the result, for loss will ensue so often that success is a great exception and by no means the rule.

There are many persons who commence breeding fast horses before they really know the first principles of the business, and breed to almost any

stallion of good form and good "stated" pedigree, without having carefully searched the "Pedigree books" to see if the horse really is entitled to the blood and lineage he claims in his flaming posters. One of the greatest mistakes made by beginners, as well as some older hands at the business, is breeding leggy, long-bodied and small chested colts. *Very occasionally* one of these turn out to be a fast one, but then there are a whole lot of others which are not fast enough to go on the track, and not at all fit for either work horses or as roadsters. They cannot be disposed of for near what they represent in outlaid money and time, and are a great loss to the breeder.

And now in regard to trotting qualities. The natural gait of a horse is the run and gallop, while the trotting gait is an acquired one, and careful training for many years, with systematic selections, for breeding, of those animals which showed their ability to go at that gait, has produced, intensified and *fixed* the trotting gait, until it is bred with certainty from trotting horses. If you want a trotting horse, one which, at the highest rate of speed he can be driven, will trot and trot only, and do so faster than he will or can run or gallop, you must breed to a *trotting* sire. It is the poorest kind of uncertainty to breed to a thoroughbred (running) horse and expect to get a trotter, notwithstanding the fact that nearly all of our fleetest horses show an admixture of such blood in their compositions, which can readily be seen by tracing their pedigree. But in almost every instance this admixture was a remote one, and systematic handling and training for several generations has bred out the tendency to run while still retaining the vim and determined courage and endurance of the thoroughbred. This view may conflict with the opinions of many horse owners in this state, but the extended experience of a host of breeders all over the United States will substantiate my views, and it can be taken, as a rule, that no fast *trotter* will be the direct result of breeding a mare to a thoroughbred (running) sire.

The kind of horse which will invariably be found to be the most profitable to raise, are those which have good form and plenty substance; those which are large and strong enough to draw a carriage, at a fair rate of speed over a long road without fatigue or injury. They should be from 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 16 hands high, well built bodies, moderately short backs, strong legs and good feet, and just such a horse as one would wish to drive to a buggy or family carriage, and weighing from 1,000 to 1,200 pounds. As a rule there is money in breeding what are known as "good roadsters," which are invariably well bred horses, and if a very fast one

is bred, so much the better, but make that rather a secondary consideration than a leading one.

The Patchen stock of horses fill this bill exactly and when a "fleety" thing is not produced, you still have an able bodied serviceable horse, good for either driving or work, possessing courage, endurance and strength. We know of a stallion of this kind, now, who has produced quite a list of colts which trot under 3 minutes, and some which trot in the thirties (and perhaps faster) and yet his services are only put at \$15 to insure. So well do I like him in form, style, substance and action, I am breeding 2 choice mares to him this year and expect good results.

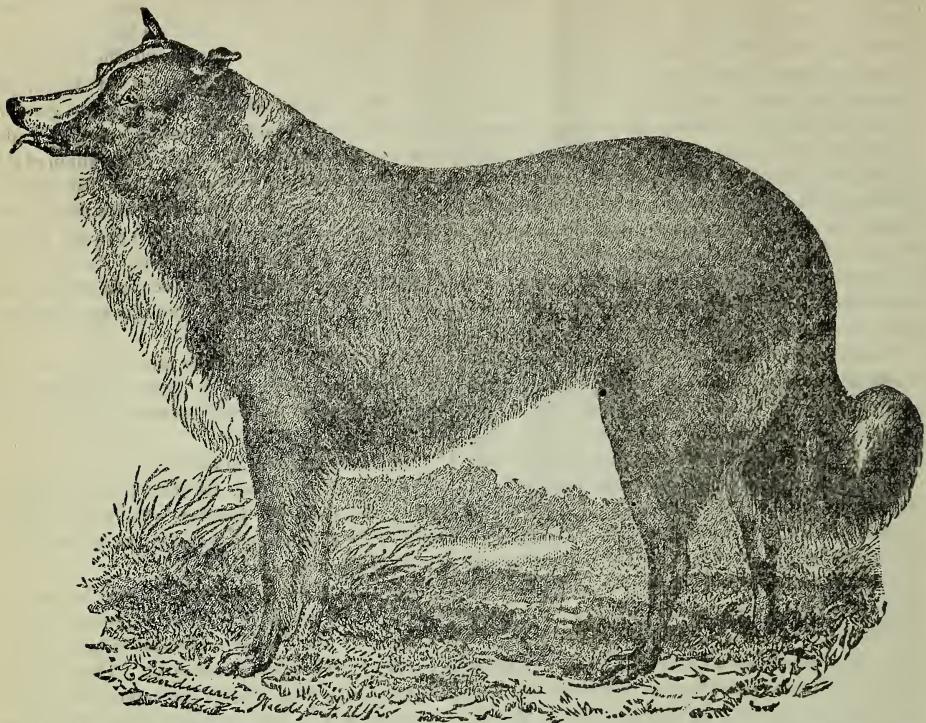
It will give me pleasure to take up this subject at some future time, and go more into detail; in the meantime let us hear from other horse breeders:

The trotting horses of our days, all who have renown for great speed, are heavy in messenger blood, and Geo. M. Patchen, who stands at the head of the famous and useful strain of Patchens, has it in his pedigree.

Before breeding to any stallion, first be sure he has the blood you wish to breed to, and do not rely on the statements made on handbills and posters, for they are notoriously incorrect. There are far too many standing all over the country who never have and never will produce choice colts, and whose printed pedigrees are made up to please the local taste, the whole being a lot of falsehoods with scarcely enough truth shadowed over them to hide the gross fabrications. If horse breeders would sift out the pedigrees more closely, such stallions, together with their owners, would soon have to retire to the obscurity from whence they came and where they belong.

Arrival of Jersey Cattle.

The steamer Nova Scotian landed on Friday six fine Jersey heifers, consigned to S. M. Shoemaker, Esq. These cattle were purchased by Mr. C. C. Fulton and Col. Clem Studebacker of Smithland, Indiana, two of them being for Mr. Shoemaker and four for Mr. Studebacker. They were purchased on the Jersey Islands, and are all under two years of age. The whole six are with calf by the famous bull Jersey Hero, owned by the Prince of Wales. They came over in fine condition, and after resting a day at Mr. Shoemaker's stables, were driven out on Saturday morning to his Pleasant Valley farm. It will be remembered that Mr. Fulton in 1853, selected at Bremen and shipped to Mr. Shoemaker a lot of famous Holstein heifers.



IMPORTED COLLIE DOG "SPORT."

The Property of Wm. Crozier, Northport, N. Y.

Through the politeness of Mr. Crozier we are enabled to present our readers with the above life-likeness of a pure bred Scotch Collie dog.

Mr. Wm. Crozier, of Newport, Long Island, N. Y., is by birth and education a thoroughbred Scotch Farmer, and there is nothing he takes more pride and pleasure in than his Scotch collies.

We are indebted to some of our exchanges, for the following items in regard to the history description and qualities of this valuable dog, which is an almost indispensable companion for every shepherd or herdsman.

The word collie is pronounced *cole y* and not *coll-y*, though we presume it is now too late to correct that fault in this country. The favorite or fashionable color is a rather light black and tan. We presume this color is more frequently found in the bench shows than at work in the field, for the great majority of workers we have seen were light gray and white.

Whoever buys a collie dog must remember he is much like the hunting dog in nature. His instincts are susceptible of the highest possible training, but

without education he is of little use. As a puppy he is extremely active, restless and full of mischief. We have had them spend their time at herding our chickens, and as they were big lazy Bramahs it came mighty hard with them. The calves and pigs were in constant terror of having to get-up-and-get together. The old cows demurred, but it was of no use; unless one of us lived amongst the beasts there was no rest for them against the constant aggravation of those shepherd puppies. If there is such a thing as a valuable watch dog, then the shepherd is invaluable, for he knows everything that is going on the farm, and his temper is not apt to be too gentle for watch dog purposes.

In training the young dog care should be used to keep the dog at the heels instead of the head of the cow or sheep. His disposition to go to the head instead of the heels is strong, and should be corrected promptly and firmly. The great trouble with the dog is his disposition to do too much. If not curbed and managed he is a nuisance and a great injury to milk cattle if used in driving them, but if properly handled he will do the labor of several men, and do it in a quiet and rapid manner that will put to shame his yelling and stick-throwing human companion.

THE APIARY.

BEES and HONEY in the SOUTH.

BY PAUL L. VIALLON.

Tho Queen Again,

As the queen is the only mother, and in fact the soul of a colony of bees, we must, at all times, see that she is present, that is, that none of our colonies is queenless; as the greatest evil which can happen to a colony of bees, is the loss of its mother or queen, especially at a time when the colony is deprived of eggs or brood, with which they could rear another one. If a lost queen has left no eggs or brood young enough, with which the bees can rear another, the colony will be very soon robbed, as the queenless bees seem to be powerless in the defense of their home, but even if they were not, the mortality of the bees in summer, is so great, that in less than 2 or 3 months, the strongest colony is reduced to nothing, if not totally destroyed, and we shall often find nothing else in the hive, but a mass of web and moths.

The loss of queens happens oftener at the times of swarming and with young virgin queens, left in the hive to continue the reproduction and more particularly when she takes her bridal flight to meet the drone, by not returning to her domicile, either by mistake or some other causes. And as at this time, there are no eggs or brood young enough for the bees to rear another queen, the colony is lost unless the apairist comes to its help. Sometime a queen is born without wings or has an imperfect wing, such a queen will be nothing else but a drone layer as she will be unable to meet a drone for it is a known fact, that fertilization can only take place in the air, while on the wing and at rapid flight, and the colony will be just as bad off, as if it had no queen at all. A queen may become too old and unfit for a layer, and the bees fail to supersede her in time, (which is not generally the case with the Italian) and when she dies, she may leave no eggs to replace her. A queen may be injured in some way, as a queen cannot bear much rough handling without injury, and therefore become a drone layer, though she might otherwise have been a very prolific layer.

The following is given by Quinby, as an indication of the loss of a queen: "The next morning after a loss of this kind has occurred, and occasionally at evening, the bees may be seen running to and fro in the greatest consternation on the outside. Some will fly off a short distance, and return, one will run to another, still in hopes, no

doubt, of finding their lost queen. A hive, close by on the same bench will probably receive a portion, and will seldom resist an accession under such circumstances. All this will be going on while other hives are quiet. Towards the middle of the day, the confession will be less marked; but the next morning it will be exhibited again, though not so plainly, and will cease after the third, when they become apparently reconciled to their fate. They will continue their labors as usual, bringing in pollen and honey. Here I am obliged to differ with writers, who tell us that all labor will now cease. I hope the reader will not be deceived by supposing that the collection of pollen is an *infallible* indication of the presence of a queen. I can assure him it is not always the case."

But as we may fail to see such indications, the best would be to examine all doubtful colonies, that is of all showing less activity than the neighboring hives. And as the movable frame hive is like a book which we only have to open, to know exactly its condition, we must not depend on external indications. We can always ascertain the presence of the queen by the presence of eggs and brood in all stages, and when these are absent, we may rest assured that the colony is queenless, unless it has a young virgin queen, which we can easily ascertain, by giving it a piece of comb containing just hatching brood from another colony, on which the bees will very soon commence queen cells if there is no queen. Whenever we have a queenless colony, we must provide it with a queen, and if none are on hand, give it a queen cell or young brood. But should a colony become queenless too late in the season, or whenever there are no more drones, the best remedy is to unite it to another colony having a queen, choosing a weak one in preference. This is done by sprinkling the queenless colony with sweetened water, say one-third honey and two-thirds water, and placing this hive upon the one we wish to unite it to, and giving a good smoking to the one having the queen. Whenever a colony becomes queenless, when honey is gathered; strange to say, if the bees build any comb it will only be drone comb, and they will never build worker combs until supplied with a queen.

Instinct teaches the bees that their existence depends on that of their mother, hence their care and attention to her. Experience teaches us that our success in apiculture, depends on the queen mostly, therefore all our care and attention must be the queen, as *prolific queens are an absolute necessity for strong colonies, and strong colonies are the only ones that give us profit.*

History of the Maryland State Agricultural and Mechanical Association.

CHAPTER IV.

In September 1850, the President of the society issued another strong appeal to the members of the Association, urging a full attendance and large contributions of stock and products; and also the Agricultural implement makers and mechanics of Maryland and of the whole United States, were urged to become exhibitors.

Characteristic of President Calvert, and his harmony with the chivalry of that period in Maryland history, we find in this appeal the following graceful acknowledgment of the value of woman's presence and influence, and a warm solicitation that she would lend both, on the occasion of the society's 3d annual Exhibition.

"And while we address you to bring such articles as are properly in your department, we crave permission to solicit your interest, to induce your wives and daughters to bring whatever appertains to their peculiar departments, as embroidery, household manufactures, the products of the dairy, and of the poultry yard, preserves, domestic wines, confections; and above all things, to come themselves, as without woman, and the beautiful elaborations of her taste and genius, no display can be perfect."

This eloquent appeal was responded to heartily by a large number of fair ladies, both as visitors and exhibitors—The ladies saloon had been enlarged and improved for their special comfort, and it was filled to overflowing with a brilliant company and beautiful exhibitions of female handiwork and evidences of female industry and skill.

The society met under the most favorable auspices,—and held its next meeting again at Carroll's Woods on the 23rd, 24th and 25th of October, 1850. Wednesday the 23rd was devoted to completing the necessary arrangements, and viewing of the stock and other articles, by the several committees to award the premiums.

On Thursday 24th, the gates were opened to the immense throng of delighted spectators.

The greatest attraction of the large display of live stock, seemed to be the herd of beautiful Devons which George Patterson Esq. of Carroll Co. exhibited, but not for competition for premiums. The President—Mr. Calvert—had a large number of cattle, which elicited the admiration of the crowd, as did also those exhibited by Messrs. Mc Henry, Holcomb, Dobbin, Ridgely, Bowing and many others—The show of fine horses was far superior to that of last year, as was also the departments of Hogs and Poultry. The show of sheep was splendid.

The display of agricultural machinery and im-

plements was large and uncommonly fine—Mr Obed Hussey was present with his then unrivalled reaping and mowing machine. The great mechanical genius of the day,—George Page—had his famous saw mill in full operation, worked alternately by his own horse-power and a newly invented portable steam engine, manufactured by Mr. McKinstry, of Washington City, under the auspices of the Hon. C. B. Calvert, president of this association, and Charles Carroll of Howard District,—now Howard County. This refined gentleman and zealous agriculturist, was the honored father of our present Governor, John Lee Carroll, of Maryland. Both Calvert and Carroll, are no longer in our midst to give encouragement to agriculture, by their zeal, ability and wealth—Their memories will ever be cherished with gratitude by every true son of the soil of our State—In regard to this engine the committee appointed to report on the same, say:

REPORT ON STEAM ENGINE.

"The committee to whom was referred the examination of the best Portable Steam Engine, applicable to agricultural purposes generally, report,

"That steam as an auxiliary to many purposes of agriculture has been known for many years and has been applied in many ways on the farm, but it has always been in connection with stationary engines attached more or less to the farmstead; and it is stated that from the fine elevations around Edinburg more than 100 steam engine stacks or chimneys may be observed as the land marks of the farm, giving a peculiar feature to the landscape. Admirable as this propelling power has proved for the purposes of the farm, it is believed that it will in a great measure be superseded in usefulness by the Steam Locomotive, susceptible of being moved by 4 or 6 horses at any time from farm to farm, from field to field, from wood to wood.

"When we take into calculation the labor and waste of stacking grain, of threshing it on the dirt floor, or hauling to a distant barn, the injury by weather, by vermin, or other causes, it is believed that a Locomotive capable of threshing and cleaning the grain with one of the improved threshers, will save more than the cost of its preparation for market.

"The risk of fire from stationary engines, where the grain is placed in or near the barn, is obviated by a locomotive, which being placed near water in any field, will receive the grain from the teams, leaving the straw to be put up in convenient ricks, for the winter feed of cattle. By the erection of temporary sheds the manure may be made in or contiguous to the fields where it is intended to be used, thus saving much of the heavy hauling on the farm. It is believed that if sufficient teams are kept to supply the grain in the straw, from 500 to 1000 bushels of wheat may be threshed and cleaned ready for market, per day.

"There are many and various uses to which it may also be applied, which every farmer with any experience, without the aid of suggestions from

this committee, will be able to supply in his own way suited to his requirements, a few only of which are here enumerated. Placed alongside of a corn house it will shell and prepare for market in a few hours many thousand bushels. If fodder is wanted to be cut up and steamed for cattle, it is ready for the work. Is plank wanted for building or repairs, or for plank fencing or posts, it can be placed in the woods, and with the aid of Page's portable saw-mills, saw from 3 to 5000 feet per day, and afterwards saw up the slabs into cord wood. For the construction of plank roads it will prove invaluable. Placed in the midst of the timber on the line of the road, it will saw a large quantity per day, and save the heavy cost of transportation.

"In fine, there so many and great advantages accruing from its use, employing while at work all the horse, ox and man power on the estate, your committee do not hesitate to recommend it to the public as one of the most efficient and labor-saving machines of modern application.

"Charles B. Calvert, of Prince George's Co., has exhibited on the ground the first Portable Steam Engine applicable to Agricultural purposes, manufactured by Wm. McKinstry, of Washington, D. C., which is believed to be the first introduced to the American public. It has given great and universal satisfaction—the gross weight without water, is 7000 lbs.; it is easily transported by 4 to 6 horses over road, and follows the track of an ordinary wagon. The nominal power, with ordinary wood, is 6 horse, but it may be worked up to 10 horse power or more, if required. The consumption of wood per day is but half a cord of good wood, and four hundred and fifty gallons of water per day for 6 horse work.—The committee award with great pleasure the liberal premium of the Society, (\$100) to Chas. B. Calvert, of Prince George's, and look to the locomotive as about to create a new and wonderful change in agriculture."

"CHARLES CARROLL,
On the part of the Committee."

Messrs. Ezra Whitman, Sinclair, Maynard & Co., Hamilton & Didier, A. G. Mott, C. H. Drury, Lewis Moore and others of Baltimore City carried off premiums for agricultural implements. The first two named had large pavilions and made very attractive and large display of every kinds of useful machinery and utensils needed on a farm—In addition to these, Col. Altee of New Winsdor, Carroll Co., Md., McKeever of Va., Wm. Johnson of Pa., J. L. Gatchell of Md., G. W. Wilson of Winchester, Va. and Isaac Crosset of Vermont, received premiums for sundry agricultural implements. The committee on implements, class No. 2 state in their report, that:

"For the best Sweep Horse Power, the second premium to Robt. Sinclair, Jr. & Co., Baltimore city.

"For the best Railway Horse Power, the Society's highest prize, to Ezra Whitman, Jr., of Baltimore city. This is for the machine with wooden rollers, which the committee, for several reasons, thought preferable.

"The committee call the attention of the Society to a very splendid Railway Power, got up by Mr. Whitman in a superior style, for exhibition at the great Industrial Exhibition to be held in London next year."

The report of the committee on neat cattle between two and three years old, express high gratification at the improvement in the exhibition of that class of animals over last year in the number of competitors and animals—"They consider it an evidence of the advancing state of agriculture and trust its continuance until competition will not be dreaded with any country." After awarding premiums for meritorious *Short Horns* of that class, to Col. Charles Carroll of Howard Co., Col. Bowling of Prince Georges Co., Aaron Clement of Pa.; for *Ayrshires*, to J. Ridgley of Hampton, Ramsey McHenry and Henry Crowl, all of Baltimore Co., Md.; for *Devons*, to A. Bowie Davis of Montgomery Co., Sam'l. Sutton and Col. Carroll of Howard Co., and C. P. Holcomb of Del.—and for *Grades*, to Samuel Sutton, Col. Wm. Coad of St. Mary's Co., John Wilkinson of Pa. and George E. Brooke of Montgomery Co., they go on to add in a very happy manner :

"Here they could have closed their labors, but in the midst of them they came across a little boy 5 years old from Fairfax county, Va., named Horace Bayley, driving in yoke two beautiful heifer calves 6 weeks old, which he had himself broken in 3 weeks; he drove them with such accuracy and they were so perfectly docile, and well broken, that forcibly it brought to your committee the recollection of the passage in the Holy Scripture, of the fiercest animal being led by a little child. Your committee without hesitation recommend unanimously to the consideration of the committee on discretionary premiums, to award to this child the best premium their duty will allow, and that it be given to *himself*; and would recommend to the to the notice of the Society this novel sight."

"JOSIAH W. WARE, Ch'n."

The recipients of premiums for cattle under two years old were, *Short Horns* :—Rev. J. McIntyre, Cecil Co., C. Harvey, Chester Co., Pa., C. B. Calvert, Pr. Geo. Co., Md., 3 premiums, *Ayrshires*, L. Bagley of Va., H. B. Chew of Md., R. McHenry of Harford Co., 6 premiums; R. H. Hare.

Holstien :—C. B. Calvert.

Alderneys :—C. B. Calvert.

Grades and Natives :—Col. Coad, 2 premiums, J. Merryman, L. T. Brien, 2 premiums, S. G. Fisher, W. B. Dobbin, and Henry Carroll all of Maryland.

Devons :—S. G. Fisher, W. W. W. Bowie, Roger Brooke, C. T. Williams, G. W. Hughes, all of Maryland, and C. P. Holcomb, of Del.

For neat cattle, 3 years old and over, the following received premiums for *Short Horns*—C. B. Calvert, 4 premiums, and J. Merryman.

Ayrshires :—J. Ridgley of Hampton, 2 premiums, A. Clement, 2 premiums, Genl. T. Tilghman and Mr. Crowl.

Holstiens :—Messrs. C. B. Calverl and W. B. Dobbin.

Devons :—Messrs. R. Brooke, 2 premiums, Samuel Sutton, A. B. Davis, and C. P. Holcomb.

Natives and Grades :—Messrs. Geo. Brooke, Wm. Loney and H. B. Chew.

2 special premiums to Mr. J. T. Troup, and one to Mr. A. Clement.

The show of swine was very extensive and some fine specimens of China, Duchess, Chester, Berkshire and Italian breeds—Premiums were awarded to Messrs. W. B. Dobbin, Martin Goldsborough, Mayberry Turner, C. Warns, J. Wilkinson, R. Sinclair, Jr., Gus. W. Lurman and Geo. Y. Worthington.

Sheep :—31 well filled pens. All were creditable, and most of them super-excellent in *that day*. Of fine-wool sheep none were exhibited. For long-wool, the awards were to Clayton Reybold for his superior Oxfordshire Buck, and to same 2 premiums for ewes. Col. Ware of Va., took first for ewes, and for best lot of lambs. Mr. Bryan Hood 1st for Leicester Bucks, he had also fine lot of lambs. For South Downs, Mr. A. Clement swept decks, except a special premium to Mr. Dobbin, for his buck, and one for lot of lambs to Mr. S. G. Fisher,

Native or Mixed Wool :—Mr. Jessup took the premium for best buck, and Col. Ware, 1st and 2nd for best ewes.

The committee close their report by adding as follows:

Imported Sheep—Premium of \$10 for best imported Buck, to Clayton Reybold.

Premium of \$10 for best imported ewe, to Col. J. W. Ware.

Since this report was drawn up, Col. Ware has presented upon the ground a Buck and two ewes, improved Cotswold, just arrived from Europe, of such superior quality as to entitle them to the most favorable notice of this Society.

The committee unanimously and respectfully recommend for them an extra premium of \$10.

There were splendid working oxen shown, and Mr. L. Bagley of Va. got the 1st premium, W. B. Dobbin the 2nd, and E. P. House the 3rd—L. Bagley 1st premium for best yoke of working cows. Mr. G. Patterson 2 yoke of high bred, large and beautiful Devons received high commendation, but were not offered for premium. Mr. Wilkinson, of Pa. showed a 2 year old bull broken to single harness, in a cart, which was a novel and instructive sight. These animals should be made to earn a

living as well as others on a farm, and they would be the more useful, active, tractable and manageable, and it is thought would be in better health to transmit the best of qualities to their progeny. The committee awarded Mr. W, a special premium of \$5—Also closed their report in these words:

"And also a pair of Calves of 6 or 7 weeks old, owned by Lewis Bailey, and driven by his own son, a boy of 5 years of age, a premium of \$2. The committee recommend this boy as entitled to a premium of \$3 for his superior management and manly deportment.

"W. T. GOLDSBOROUGH, AARON CLEMENT,
"WILLIAM JESSUP, CHALKEY HARVEY."

REPORT ON FAT CATTLE AND SHEEP.

"The committee on fat cattle and sheep award to Amos Ewing, of Cecil Co., \$10 for a fat ox.

"Wm. C. Wilson, of Baltimore Co., \$7 for a fat ox."

"To John Merryman, of Baltimore Co., \$6 for a fat ox.

"To Clayton B. Reybold, of Delaware, \$8 for the best slaughtered mutton of long woolled sheep.

"To Col. Charles Carroll, of Daughoregan Manor, \$8 for the best slaughtered mutton of middle wool sheep.

"To Sterling Thomas & Sons, of Baltimore, \$8 for the best slaughtered mutton of native or middle wool sheep.

"To Clayton B. Reybold, of Delaware, \$8 for the best lot of live mutton, six in number.

"SOLON ROBINSON, Ch'm. J. M. TURNER,
"GEORGE R. DENNIS, SAM'L M. LEE,
"STERLING THOMAS."

Premiums for the best animals, males and female of all breeds shown, which had previously received the honors of first premium, were awarded to C. B. Calvert for his Short Horn bull "Potomac", and his Short Horn cow "Alberta." In this class was exhibited very superior specimens of Short Horns, Devons, Ayrshires and Holstiens.

Horses and Mules :—There was a fine show of horses, in the different classes, and Messrs. J. C. Walsh, C. Carroll, Merryman, Clements, Dorbacker, S. W. Worthington, Houser, Holliday, Waters, H. G. S. Key, Dr. Murray, and master R. S. L. Walsh, received respectively premiums.

There was a remarkably large exhibit of fine Poultry of every variety and of various breeds of each class.

Fruits :—After awarding the premiums to the successful competitors, the committee close their report thus:

"The committee on Fruit feel peculiar gratification in reporting a decided and progressive improvement in their department; and they feel rejoiced that an emulous spirit in Horticulture is diffusing itself throughout our State, and that with proper incentives this important branch of Agriculture will be promoted, and that hereafter it will

present at our exhibition, an attractive feature. All of which is submitted."

"JOHN H. BAYNE, DR. MULLIKEN,
"G. S. HOLLIDAY, Mr. LUCKETT,
"E. S. STEVEN, Committee."

The number and variety and excellence of vegetables and fruits was a great feature at this successful meeting.

The display of flowers and plants was large, and Mr. Jno. Feast again carried off the 1st prize for "the greatest and choicest collection."

Messrs. Geo. Morton, of Prince Georges Co., J. D. Owing, of A. A. Co., Col. J. D. Bowling, of Pr. Geo. Co., and W. M. Edelin, of Calvert Co., took premiums in the order named on tobacco.

There was a great contest over Bacon Hams, of which 21 were on the table, and Mr. T. E. Hambleton received the first premium, Mr. J. Glenn the 2nd, Mr. R. Brooke, Jr., the 3rd, and Mr. C. D. Slingluff the 4th.

The Dairy and Apiary were well represented, and highly creditable to the exhibitors of butter and honey.

In the ladies department, the fair daughters and wives of the old State, received the highest acclaim of praise and honor, a large number receiving valuable silver rewards, from the society, as memorials of their energy and accomplishments in household affairs.

The ladies pavilion, stored as it was with flowers, fruits, garden products and home manufactures of every description, with every available space crowded by a throng of youthful beauty, matronly dignity and worth, was the chosen spot for the gallant sons of Maryland to feast their eyes and glorify their state pride.

In the next chapter we shall give the more important proceedings of the Society, in their hall of meeting on the night, of each day of the Fair.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

As an illustration of the rapidity with which sheep husbandry is advancing in Texas, it is stated that in 1866 San-Antonio received but 600,000 pounds of wool, which were sent through Galveston. In 1877 she received 2,000,000 pounds. The wool of Nueces and the neighboring counties is shipped from Corpus Christi. In 1866 there were shipped only 600,000 pounds. This year there will be shipped 6,500,000 pounds. But it is so in all our leading products, and probably by the census of 1880, as we stated last week to be the utterance of the great English statesman, Gladstone, that it will be shown by the census that the United States is the wealthiest nation in the world.

The St. Michael's Agricultural Society.

Met at Ray's Point, the residence of Jno. C. Adams, Esq. on Thursday last. Of the members of the Society present were Mr. Jas. E. McDaniel, President; Hon. O. Hammond, Secretary; Mr. James Benson, Treasurer; Dr. James Seth, Messrs. Joseph H. Harrison, Jno. C. Adams, N. P. Jenkins and Wm. Willis. There were also several invited guests present. The subject discussed was "Methods of Preparing Fallow." The discussion was participated in by all the members, each one giving his views in turn, as required by the rules of the Society. After the discussion, the gentlemen present sat down to a bountiful dinner, to which all—those who were farmers and those who were not—did ample justice.

In the afternoon, Mr. Adams conducted his visitors over his farm, and pointed out several experiments he had tried this year in planting corn, using fertilizers, &c. Mr. Adams evidently has one of the best managed farms in this part of the country. The crops, the grass the fencing, the trees and the houses all show that he conducts his farming operations with intelligent skill and unremitting industry.

The Society adjourned late in the afternoon, after transacting some routine business, and discussing other matters of husbandry. The membership of the Society is limited to fifteen, and there are now several vacancies.—*The Comet Advertiser.*

The Perfect Sheep Dog.

The English Fancier's Journal gives the following description of the Scotch coolley. To win a first prize in a first-class dog show a dog would have to fill all these conditions:—The head has a great resemblance to a wolf's—being rather conical, and going off gradually sharp to the nose, with a long jaw, only longer, and with a foxy and intelligent look, and wider and longer ears, which are a little feathered and pendant; eyes have a sort of flashing and "miss-hothing" look, always on the alert, jaw long, nose sharp, neck long and well furnished, with apron ruffle, shoulders fine and deep, chest well let down, legs straight and full of muscle, with cat-like feet. A good, broad back, and thick over the loins, with well bent hocks, stifles well developed, tail feathered, not carried over the back, coat long and straight, wiry to the touch with a pily coat underneath the "overcoat." Color various, but that most in vogue is black-and-tan, the tan to be pale, not rich. This is the present fashionble sheep dog,

THE
MARYLAND FARMER,
 A STANDARD MAGAZINE.

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture & Rural Economy.
EZRA WHITMAN,
 Editor.

COL. W. W. W. BOWIE, Associate Editor.

141 West Pratt Street

BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE, OCTOBER 1, 1878.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION

One dollar and fifty cents per annum, in advance
 Five copies and more, one dollar each.

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EXCHANGE LIST.

Advertisements under this head of not over 40 words, describing and offering stock or poultry "for exchange only," will be allowed at 25 cents for each and every insertion. For every line extra, 10 cents will be charged.

Editor of pigeon department Maryland Farmer, will exchange Antwerps, Fantails, Turbits, Owls, Jacobins and other varieties of fancy pigeons, for fancy poultry of all kinds. Prices low.

Our friends can do us a good turn by mentioning the MARYLAND FARMER to their neighbors and suggesting to them to subscribe for it.

TO POSTMASTERS—You will see that the subscription price of the MARYLAND FARMER is \$1.50 per year; but you will be allowed a commission of 50 cents on each subscriber that you will send us; that is, send us \$1.00 and keep 50 cents on each.

Now is the time to ADVERTISE, when the fall trade is brisk and farmers are looking for stock of all kinds, and fertilizers, and winter supply of goods. We shall send out a great many specimen numbers of our Journal to different sections of the country, that everybody may see it, and we hope, may appreciate its merits.

FIFTEENTH VOLUME OF
 THE MARYLAND FARMER.

This is the tenth number of the 15th volume of THE MARYLAND FARMER; and we claim it has been published longer continuously, without cessation, by the same publisher, than any other farmer's journal in this or other States south of Philadelphia.

A *popular* magazine,—as attested by our subscription list, frequent kind letters from parties, and the notices of our brethren of the press in this and other Southern States,—and is also a *great advertising medium*, as shown by the numerous new advertisements in the present number.

During the present year, we shall allow nothing to prevent our making it superior to all former issues, and maintain beyond dispute its high character.

Its aim will be to admit nothing in its columns like Theory, unless based on science controlled by reason; nor anything called Practical, unless proved by successful experiments.

If our old subscribers will do us the favor to canvas for THE MARYLAND FARMER, by showing it to their neighbors and soliciting the subscriptions, they will confer a great favor on us, and we do not doubt, confer a greater profit on the new subscriber.

MAKE UP CLUBS.

To Clubs of five or more, with pay in advance, we will supply THE MARYLAND FARMER at \$1.00 each, per year.

Any one who will send us six dollars for six subscribers, shall receive a seventh copy for getting up the club.

These terms enable persons to get the Magazine at \$1.00 per year, postage paid.

YOUNG MEN!

It is an easy way to make money by getting subscribers for THE MARYLAND FARMER. Send 15 cents for Specimen Copies, and ascertain what Liberal Commissions we will allow.

ADVERTISERS.—While we are gratified to perceive from the large number of advertisements in the MARYLAND FARMER—increased monthly—that our journal is appreciated as a profitable medium, yet we are surprised that Farmers who have stock of all kinds for sale do not advertise more freely; merchants properly estimate the value of advertisements, while farmers lose hundreds of dollars by not doing as the merchants do. We have daily enquiries where poultry, eggs, sheep, cattle, horses, &c. are to be had, and at what price. We can not answer in all cases. It is true we have an agency ourselves for the purchase of such articles, but we would have our patrons deal personally with the owners, who advertise.

ATTENTION! SUBSCRIBERS!

Gentlemen, we do hope you will remember us when you are reaping what we hope is a bountiful harvest for each one of you in this year of plenty. All over the country the labors of the husbandman has been blessed with a noble reward, and we trust that as co-laborers we shall not be left unpaid.

AGRICULTURAL JOURNALS:—We wish our subscribers to read carefully the able and practical essay of Mr. Conrad Wilson, on the *influence and value* of agricultural Journals, in the present number of this magazine, and after reading it, to call the attention of their neighbors who do not take such journals, and ask them to subscribe to the MARYLAND FARMER as one which will meet their wants in most particulars, being always filled with practical original matter and well selected articles upon all subjects connected with farming, horticulture, house-hold economy, stock raising, the dairy, Apiary, &c. Price \$1.50 per year or five copies for five dollars.

We will send the MARYLAND FARMER for this month and the balance of the year **FREE** to all new subscribers for 1879. Our subscribers are requested to notify their neighbors of this offer.

MARYLAND FARMER,
141 W. Pratt St., Balto., Md.

ERRATA—The interesting paper on “Beet Sugar Industry in Maine,” by Mr. E. T. Gennert, has we are sorry to say been blurred by one typographical error, somewhat ludicrous—in the last paragraph 8th line from top of 2nd column of page 313, the word “trees” as printed should read *tons*. Our readers will no doubt peruse the article with great pleasure, as it is full of valuable information on the important subject—The Editor had several pleasant interviews with Mr. Gennert, and brought back samples of the sugar beet dried and the beet sugar, made at the Portland factory, under the supervision of Mr. G. These samples may be seen at office of the MARYLAND FARMER.

Horticulture in Primary Schools.

The first principles of practical horticulture are taught the children attending the public elementary schools throughout France. Of these schools there are nearly 30,000, and to each is attached a garden under the charge of a master sufficiently versed in gardening matters to instruct the scholars, in the cultivation of the common kinds of fruits, flowers, and vegetables.

General Meems Great Sheep Sale.

We had but room in last issue of the MD. FAR. to mention the sale and state its great success. We again recur to it, that we may congratulate Virginia and the Middle States upon its wonderful success. Genl. Meems deserves the thanks of the stock breeders, not only the two Virginia States, but Maryland and all the Middle States, as he has by his energy and determined pluck, inaugurated successfully an annual competitive sale in this large region of country, so that as in the West, breeders can meet together and purchase the best specimens of the breeds they may prefer—We are glad this first venture of our distinguished friend has not proved a failure, but a grand success. All things considered, being a first experiment—a *new departure* in Virginia husbandry—on short notice, some of the offerings being only grades and others just received after a long travel and unfavorable appearance of weather, uncertainty of buyers as to what would be the character of the offerings, and many other such things attending a new enterprise—it is a subject of congratulation to Virginians and Marylanders, as well as other Atlantic border Southern States, that Genl. Meem has inaugurated so successfully a “Stock Sale,” as gives assurance that in the future there will be no such thing as fail on his part.

Winter Oats.

A correspondent. H. S. in the *Baltimore American*, furnishes some important facts in regard to sowing winter oats in this region. From what he says, it would be well for our farmers to try an acre or so this autumn—We cannot not see why they will not do as well as winter wheat in our climate. If they yield so much better than spring sown oats, it is nonsense for us to wait for spring to do what can be usually so much better done in late autumn. We hope our go-a-head farmers will at least test this matter on a small scale, and give us the benefit of their experiment next year. The winter alluded to says:—

“The first of last October I sowed some winter oats on an acre and a half of land, about two bushels to the acre: They came up reasonably well, and were not killed by the winter. The spring weather was favorable, and they made a fine growth. In June they had an average height of 6 feet, many specimens being even higher than that, when a severe storm of wind and rain lodged them badly, and they were cut with a mowing scythe. Each load was weighed, and the product of the

acre and a half was 31,000 pounds, a little over ten tons to the acre. I have 136 bushels of oats, by measure, ninety bushels to the acre I think; not less than forty pounds to the bushel. If they reach that, the ninety measured bushels per acre will be fully equal to one hundred bushels weight per acre. If any one has done better than that with spring oats it will be in order for them to speak."

"H. S."

European Agriculture.

Mr. Fulton of the Baltimore *American* writes in a recent letter from Europe:—

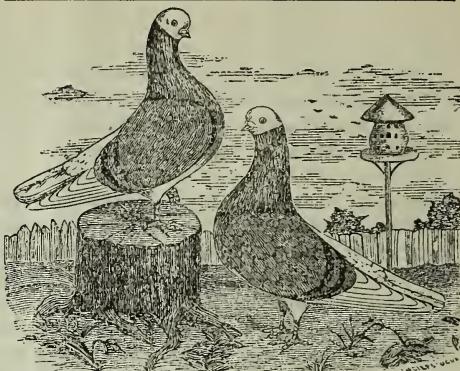
"In our recent journey through Southern France, the entire circuit of Italy, through a considerable portion of Austria and Germany, through Belgium and Northern France, the distance being nearly five thousand miles, we observed that the much largest portion of labors in the field were women. They were not only making hay, but ploughing, mowing, hoeing, grubbing and planting. They were not only doing the work of men, but such work as men usually depend on horses to perform. In all the vast country we did not see a horse-rake, a cultivator or any labor-saving implement. The only cultivator was the primitive hoe, and a line of women, mostly superintended by one or two men, bent their backs to labor. The only plows looked as if they might have been modeled after the implements which Noah landed from the ark.

We did see one threshing machine standing on a car at a depot in Austria, which was the only labor-saving machine that attracted our attention. But even in Italy, with the exception of the Roman Campagna, the culture was fine, and the crops most promising of a rich harvest. Every inch of ground was made to yield to the utmost, and wheat, corn, grapes, and fruit all bore evidence of skillful cultivation."

Remedy for Weak Legs in Hogs.

The *Indiana Farmer* says:—"Most farmers have noticed that in fattening swine, especially when they are crowded rapidly; they always appear weak in their hind legs, and sometimes lose the use of them entirely. An intelligent farmer says that he and his neighbors have made a practice of feeding bone meal in such cases, and find that a small quantity mixed with the daily feed will prevent any weakness, and strengthen the animals so as to admit of the most rapid forcing. As bone meal is known to be a preventive of cripple ail, and weakness in cows, it looks reasonable that it should also be a benefit to hogs, which are often confined to a diet containing but little or no bone-making material."

PIGEON COLUMN.



By Editor of *Pigeon Column*.

THE POUTER.

The breed of pigeons that are most valued by fanciers, are those that differ in the greatest degree from the blue rock doves and the common mongrel dove house pigeons. Of these the Pouters, Carriers and Tumblers are the most esteemed. The Pouter is a remarkable bird, distinguished by the extraordinary power it possesses of inflating or blowing out the neck; it is also characterized by the extreme length of its legs, which should be feathered to the toes, and the length of the feathers of the wings and tail. Pouters are of various colors—some are purely white, but in general they are blue, or black, marked or pied with white upon the crop, and with white flight feathers in the wings; there are also red and yellow pied birds. The properties for which a Pouter is valued are stated as being five in number, viz: length of leg, length of feathers, slenderness of body, size of crop, and color. Pouters possessing all these properties of the breed in a very perfect degree are rare, and consequently very valuable. Fifty, or even one hundred dollars, is no uncommon price for a pair of birds sufficiently good to win prizes in the competitions at the large exhibitions of poultry and pigeons; but very fair specimens may be bought at the dealers for a few dollars a pair. Pouters are not such good nurses as many other pigeons, often neglecting their young before they can feed themselves, when they die, unless fed by being crammed with beans at least twice a day. For this reason we would not recommend the young fancier to begin with this breed.

Homing or Carrier Pigeons.

The winners of the first grand prize in the late race from Rome to Belgium 900 miles, was won by a dark blue chequered hen, the property of M. Gaspard Heutz, of Ais-le-Chapelle, France; the sum of four hundred dollars was offered, and refused for her. The prize won, amounted to three hundred dollars in gold, besides a very handsome and costly medal was awarded to the owner.

Ed. *Pigeon column*.

POULTRY HOUSE.

Houdans.

Messrs Editors :—There are very few fowls equal in value to the Houdans, which are both ornamental and useful, and should be brought fully to the notice of all raisers of useful poultry.

In size the Houdans when of full standard size, average 5 to 6 lbs. for cock, and 4 to 4½ for hen. Plumage is spangled all over body, black and white, and on the cock is very beautiful with brilliant gloss on saddles, back, sickle, and cover, feathers; the head is covered with a heavy crest and throat with full beard and muff—The Houdan is one of the few crested fowls, whose sight is not interfered with by the crest, and the cock is remarkably proud and vain in its bearing, is very watchful, and also very spirited and stubborn in fight.

As egg producers, Houdans claim their place amongst the first; they are non sitters, and if not equalling in number of eggs, the Leghorns and Hamburgs, they out strip them all in weight, as two of their large white eggs will turn the scale—with three Leghorns or Hamburgs eggs. The eggs of Houdans are usually very fruitful—The chickens very healthy and fast growers, and not subject to most of the diseases which attack young chickens; both chickens and old fowls, are very meaty, tender, and fine in flavor, and valuable as table fowls. I will finish, adding standard of value as follows:

Non Setters, No. 1; Layers, No. 2; Flesh, No. 1; Beauty, No. 2; Health, No. 1; Growers, No 1; Fruitless of eggs, No. 1; Foragers, No. 2.

W. S. TEMPLE,
47 S. Howard St.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Keeping Poultry.

Every well regulated family should keep a collection of fowls for family use if for no other purpose. There is a diversity of opinion regarding the profitableness of keeping poultry; but this very largely depends upon certain conditions which are under the control of the owner of such stock. If they are not properly secured and prevented from doing injury, there is danger of their committing depredations upon growing crops, which in some cases might amount in value to much more than any profit that might otherwise come from the keeping, hence the frequent cry that there is no profit in keeping poultry.

The actual cost of keeping fowls, if a farmer is favorably situated, is comparatively small; we have in mind some where parties are remote from neighbors and have extensive pasture close at hand upon which the fowls are permitted to roam at will, who make the raising of fowls not only quite profitable, but make it a specialty of their farming operations. But close proximity to neighbors, with fowls running at large and trespassing, is a prolific source of discord and quarrels. In such cases fowls should be confined to a suitable yard. In the first place the chief requisite in keeping poultry is a suitable poultry house, which should be situated in a location that will be warm in winter and still reasonably shaded and cool in summer. The necessity for an exceedingly warm shelter for winter will be seen from the fact that without this fowls fail to produce eggs, which is a chief source of profit, and while many fowls are suffered to care for themselves so far as shelter is concerned, thus furnishing no eggs, the supply is diminished, causing a corresponding demand with advanced prices; another advantage too, is found in the ability to furnish early birds for the market, which are sure to bring remunerative prices. Then let the fowl house be constructed of sufficient size to amply accommodate all the fowls that it is desirable to keep, with ample provision for light and sun from the South by means of windows, which may be protected by wire gauze. The flooring should be constructed with a view to the accumulation and saving of the manure, as no more valuable fertilizer can be made upon the farm than that furnished by the fowls; therefore that portion of the house devoted to the perches should be provided with a coating underneath of dry earth or muck, upon which the fecal discharges may drop, and by it be absorbed, which after becoming well saturated and mixed by being worked over may be placed in barrels or boxes ready for use, and so the operation continued. A quantity of boxes partially concealed should be provided for the nesting of the hens, which should be away from the perches, and any liability of becoming foul from the manure droppings. It is also absolutely essential that the house should be kept reasonably neat and especially free from vermin. As often as once or twice a year the house may be fumigated by burning brimstone; it would also be well to wash with carbolic acid, also white wash with lime, for otherwise there will be an accumulation of lice, and a filthiness which will breed disease. If hens are confined in a yard they should have a quantity of fresh water every day; there is no animal that requires clean water more than fowls. There should be a variety of food both in summer and winter, and may consist

of a variety of grains, ground meal wet up with water, lobbered milk, scraps of meat, chopped cabbage, apples and other green food. If fowls are at large, in summer they will make up a variety suited to their taste in the line of flesh and fresh food, which becomes necessary to supply in the winter. It must be borne in mind that the egg is made up largely of albuminous material, and that the food furnished should contain considerable quantities of this substance, and that there should also be supplied lime in some form to furnish shell material.

A very successful grower of fowls is very careful, especially during the winter season, to give a great variety of food and to make frequent changes; one prominent idea is, during cold weather, to have at least one feeding a day of a healing nature, either artificial in the shape of scalded meal, or natural by the introd. . . . into wet meal of a little ginger.

Potatoes boiled and mashed with a little Indian corn meal makes a good feed; but there need be no danger in the line of feeding if the idea of variety and frequent change be kept in mind. Indian corn, rye, wheat, oats, barley, buckwheat, and the whole catalogue of grains may be fed, although it is said that too much feeding with corn will tend to impair the power to lay and put in fat. Chopped onions are good given in small quantities occasionally, and in fact almost any kind of green vegetables or fruits will be eaten with a relish during the winter season, and some go so far as to cut dried hay and steam it for fowls that they may have an approximation to grass.

We had intended to speak of some different varieties of fowls, and the profits coming from keeping, as given by those engaged in the business; but the limits of this article forbid, and we shall therefore be obliged to defer to another time.

WILLIAM H. YEOMANS

Columbia, Conn.

EFFECT OF DIFFERENT MANURES ON GRASS LAND.—A Yorkshire correspondent of the London *Agricultural Gazette* gives the following bit of experience, which shows that one should not be too hasty in judging of the comparative effects of different kinds of manure: "Last January I dressed a very poor plain, or sheep run (21 acres), with about 14 loads of farm-yard manure (not very rotten) on 4 acres. The rest of the pasture was sown about three weeks later with special dissolved bones, at the rate of 4 cwt. per acre. The effect of the first dressing was soon visible, and the 4 acres were distinctly marked out from the rest, showing where the manure was applied. As this

result remained unchanged till the beginning of April, and the artificial manure then appeared to have been used in vain, judgement was given in favor of the yard manure. After this, however, we had some warmer weather, with fine growing showers, which soon altered matters, and the line of demarcation became each day less distinct, till at length the superiority of the bones became manifest. I have now (June 19th) got a most luxuriant mixture of grasses (chiefly red and white clovers) from the portion sown with artificial manure. On the 4-acre piece there is scarcely any clover, and only a poor share of rye grass and other common varieties. I have used dissolved bones on a good deal of grass this year, and the result in each case is astonishing. My land is a strong loamy clay."

Journalistic.

The Fanciers' Weekly :—Devoted to Poultry, Pigeons and stock, H. F. Whitman, Ed, and proprietor, F. L. Hooper associate editor—Balto.—This is a new enterprise in Baltimore and in the South. It is only a four page paper, but is weekly. It supplies a great want that has long existed—Persons who wish to exchange a fine bird, or fowl of any sort, or an animal, whether ox, dog, horse or hog, goat or sheep, having bred from it long enough, or being overstocked, and wishing to change or introduce new blood of same strain or breed, rather than go farther into in-breeding, and not willing to buy one, wants to exchange, even if they get an inferior one, but of undoubtful blood. The change will prove of great value—Infusion of new blood of same class works wonders sometimes, when too much in-breeding may prove disastrous.

As to the practical working of this unobtrusive, but useful little sheet ;—for 25 cents, a breeder, lets thousands of people know that he has a pigeon, goose, hen or other fowl of pure blood, which he wishes to exchange for another of some kind, or of a different breed ; or a farmer has a South Down he wishes to exchange for a Cotswold, determined to cross his breed. See how easy and cheap his wishes are made known—He meets at once with some one who is in the same humor, and the South Down buck is passed to a Cotswold breeder and vice versa, so both are suited at no outlay of money beyond 25 cents, and the customers expense of transportation. We commend heartily this new enterprise, and are glad to know that it already meets with encouragement, far beyond sanguine expectations. We can only say we believe the longer it is continued the greater its advantages will be seen to the poultry, pigeon, and all animal fanciers, and indeed farmers and stock men generally.

The New England Fair of 1878.

It was our good fortune to be present a part of the time that this great fair was held last month, at Worcester, Mass. We had been led to believe we should see something very remarkable, and we were not altogether disappointed—The arrangements and the order preserved were admirable, the crowd was as great as we expected, yet the stock not as fine, but in numbers of exhibits of stock, machinery and articles of domestic utility it was overflowing—for instance ; 157 Jerseys, 159 Ayrshires—a great number of Short Horns, and a few comparatively, Devons and Dutch cattle—Many fine hogs, mostly Yorkshire, Berkshire and Poland China—A large collection of sheep, mostly Cotswolds—No premium for poultry. A large number of horses were paraded on the track, some colts were very fine and nearly all were trotting stock, Patchen, Hamiltonians and Black Hawk Morgans or of their strains—We did not see more than a half-dozen which were unusually good—As they passed us we could in most instances readily detect their different families, so well stamped on the progeny were the peculiar characteristics of their great sires or pro-genitors—Each noted family of the trotting race was very distinguishable. One excellent feature of this association is the assignment of a neat cottage opposite the grand stand, for members of the press and reporters from every part of the Union, who may claim the privilege. In common with all our brothers of the press, we had a badge and complimentary ticket that gave us the privilege of going every-where, and a free lunch or meal at any time, in the large pavillion set apart for the officers and members of the association—From the upper story of the house of the Press, we could see all over the large grounds. We found the gentlemen of the press, there assembled, tho' strangers, most agreeable and very kind, offering to us and each other, every courtesy and facility to gather information, and to them we return our sincere thanks for their polite attention to us. President Hon. George B. Loring, was unfortunately absent on account of illness in his family, and his opening address, which was able and eloquent, was read by the accomplished secretary, Daniel Needham Esq., of Boston. We were largely indebted to Mr. Needham for his warm greeting and highly complimentary attentions during our limited stay—We much regretted we could not have spent a longer time, and seen more of the business management of the association in its evening re-unions, than we did, but unfortunately the weather was so inclement most of the time, and we were compelled to be on the move all the while

to make the most of our short stay in the "country about the great hills" as *Massachusetts* is interpreted to mean in Indian lingo, and it is a tersely appropriate name for the old Bay State.

The exhibition of fruits, and vegetables, flowers and art contributions was held in Mechanic and Washburn's halls—It was extensive and creditable. There were 500 plates of apples, 200 of pears, 40 of peaches, very handsome, and grapes &c. Messrs. Ellwanger & Barry; Rochester, N. Y. had on exhibition 70 varieties of apples, 38 plums, 30 of pears ; and specimens of their seedling Rochester and Monroe grapes—John Holden, of Holden, had 21 varieties of potatoes, of fine size and attractive appearance—There was a large and great show of this vegetable. On the grounds, the Jersey cattle were fine. The Ayrshires seemed popular, among which we noticed Mr. Herbert Merriam's draft from his herd at Cherry Brook farm at Weston, Mass., some of which were at the Centennial. His bull "Lord Douglas" was much admired. One of his cows is said to have given 19 quarts of milk a day when two years old.

The Herefords are a popular breed in New England, and we were surprised to note the absence of many of the leading exhibitors of this breed. Mr. J. S. Hawes owner of Mount Pleasant stock farm, Vassalboro', Maine, had a select herd of 13 superior animals, including a magnificent dappled light red bull—Highland chief—the largest bull on the ground, five years old, weighing 3000 lbs., having a length of 11' and a girth of nine feet. Among the stock was " " a fine looking 8-year-old cow, and three 6-months-old calves weighing between 600 and 700 pounds apiece. John Brooks of Princeton also had Hereford stock in seven pairs of 2 year-old and yearling steers.

The Devons were not over 60 head, yet among them were some good specimens—The herd of Mr. E. H. Hyde, of Stafford, Conn., struck us as prominent, and also that of Mr. N. B. Reed of Princeton, Mass. The Devon breeders claim that the climate has less effect upon Devons than other breeds, and that the same food required to keep in fair order 2 of any other breed, will keep in like order 3 Devons, and that their milk is as rich for butter as any other cow's.

There were a few fine Guernseys and Grade cattle, of the latter we shall only mention the grade.—Ayrshires of Hillman & Brigham of Marlboro, including "Marlboro Queen," a 9-year-old cow, who is set up for the champion milk record, it being announced that in one year the cow made 13,513 pounds.

The Short Horns some 60 head made a good show ; many were white and several white bulls,

attracted much attention. Mr S. Slater, Worcester, had 18 head, with a first premium bull "Duke of Tuberose," and fourteen cows. His best bull, first named, died from the effects of the heat, on Tuesday. For his dam, "Tuberose of Fairview," a cow of pure "Princess" breed, which Mr. Slater imported, the price of \$9,000 was paid, and the Duke, her young offspring, was reckoned the finest and most promising animal in the large herd of Mr. Slater. C. B. Patten of South Walpole had a white 4-year-old bull, "Prince William," weighing 2442 pounds, and bred for its owner in Kentucky. Another white bull, "Prince Victor," heads the herd of J. Winslow Jones, of Portland, Me. The animal is 4 years old and weighs 1900 pounds. J. T. Ellsworth of Barre has a white bull, "Albino," 4 years old and weighing 1700 pounds.

The Swiss cattle were shown by D. G. Aldrich, who had 72 head, including the bull "William Tell," 2 years old, and captured a large share of the premiums; J. N. Keys, of Worcester, 6 head, with two fine bulls; and one or two smaller herds.

The Holstien cattle were in small force. L. G. Moen, of Worcester, has 6 head. C. H. Tilton, Jr., Ashland, had a herd of 7 head, of the "belted Dutch," and Hillman & Brigham, of Marlboro, several grades of this breed.

Wm. Mixter, of Hardwick, had a fat ox, 4000 lbs., a mammoth, and the only entry of fat cattle noticed.

The parade of work oxen was the greatest we ever saw, and their performance at the plow and in hauling, and backing immense loads, should be witnessed to be believed—There were over 100 pairs—They were trained to perfection. They averaged per yoke from 2500 lbs, to 3760 lbs.

F. T. Stockwell had a notable yoke of milk white steers, 4 years old and weighed 3,800 lbs.

Some yokes of large size, and only 1 year old were shown. It seems to be a custom North to begin the education of work cattle at a very early period, and hence when 3 or 4 years old they are "broken"—as we say in the South—most perfectly.

There was a large collection of fine hogs of the Berkshire, Poland, China and Yorkshire breeds. Mr. Dickenson, of Harvard, Mass., exhibited a 2 year old Berkshire boar weighing 925 lbs.

The sheep show was excellent—Merino, South Down and Cotswoold—the latter in the largest number. According to our judgment Mrs. Eliza Sutton, of Center Harbor, N. H., had the best Cotswoold, though the awarding committee thought differently.

The plowing match was a success notwithstanding the bad weather, and was an important feature of the Fair. The interest manifested in it

was shown by the attendance of at least 2,000 spectators. There were 50 to 60 entries, the largest number yet made for a plowing match—single teams and double teams—the latter were made up of 4 horses or 4 oxen, or 2 oxen and two horses, driven to a plow. One pair of either constituted a single team.

Agricultural Hall was packed by the exhibit of manufactured articles, embroidery, needlework, and the industrial arts. One of the largest and most attractive displays was made in the upper hall, by Clark, Sawyer & Co. of Worcester, with a show of crockery, silver ware, room decorations, faience, porcelain, cutlery, &c. Barnard, Sumner & Co., show dry goods, including carpets in variety, rugs, blankets, &c. J. T. Roche had a case of millinery; Ira G. Blake & Sons, watches and jewelry; Geo. A. Allen boots and shoes; the Hingham toy manufactory a large display; Peck & Phillips, Providence, a new and ingenious apple parer, corer and divider, combined; J. W. Giles, Marlboro', stuffed birds; Otto R. Cunther, several cases of insects, neatly mounted and labelled; and there are over 600 entries of needlework, embroidery, worsted and crochet work, rugs, braided work, artificial flowers, and other wonders of female ingenuity.

There were musical instruments and handsome furniture. One striking object was that of A. R. Piper, of Barre, 84 years old who offered for exhibition, two circular tables, the tops of which are made of bits of wood, arranged to represent original designs. On one of them is a representation of the library building at Concord, Mass., with a book in the foreground. The other is a representation of General Grant's cottage at Long Branch, and both showing wonderful skill and patience.

We were disappointed in the offerings of agricultural products, they were meagre in quantity and nearly all we saw poor specimens.

There was a great display of bread, pies, and dairy products, that looked well, but we did not have the opportunity to submit any of them to the only sure test—*taste*—to express a correct opinion as to their merits.

In agricultural machinery there was a very large display. The Ames Plow Co., being near their headquarters, made a monstrous show, embracing almost every conceivable tool and machine used in farm work. There were a crowd of other exhibitors, whose names alone, would occupy more space than our limits will just now allow, or we would be pleased to mention them and the several articles each one exhibited. We can but say, the wind-mills were prominent, and the whole department of implements and machinery was very creditable and attractive.

We cannot omit to notice the very large collection of finely made and excellent working tools exhibited by The Belcher and Taylor Agriculture Tool Co, of Chicopee Falls, Mass. They are located sixty miles from the place of exhibition, yet they received the second prize for largest collection. Feed-cutters form a prominent feature in their manufactures and they are justly celebrated. They claim that more of their make of these implements are sold in this country than those of any other manufacturer. They have an immense Southern trade.

We did not witness the trotting, but heard they were largely attended and proved interesting.

On Friday there was a public auction of such cattle and other stock as was offered for sale, under the auspices and rules of the association. This is a good feature which might be incorporated in the programme of other State and county societies in the Country, with good results to the society as well as to the farmers in general.

On the whole we were delighted with all we saw, and gained much practical information from the many intelligent agriculturists and educated gentleman with whom we conversed or made the pleasant acquaintance of, all of whom without one exception seemed affable, kind and hospitable and particularly demonstrative in their attentions as soon as they learned we were from the South. We found this everywhere, from the "mine host of the inn," down to the porters, and from the Chief Officers of the 6 New England States Fair, down to the gate-keepers. Every where we were made to feel at home with a welcome, and for which we can not feel otherwise than highly gratified and ready at any moment to reciprocate these kindly attentions.

Of our delightful visit to the Brothers Sturtevant, at their home, Waushakum Farm, South Framingham, Mass., and what we there saw and heard, we must defer to another time, to relate for the benefit of our readers, for it would take many pages to tell all pleasant reminiscences connected with this visit, as it was both an intellectual feast and a charming physical relaxation.

We visited the splendid estates and grounds of Mr. Edward Burnett, Southboro', Mass., and the famous place of Mr. Bowditch, a few miles distant from Mr. Burnett, and many other noted places away from Boston, which we will more particularly speak of hereafter.

In Boston we attended the opening of the great Triennial Mechanics Fair, which alone was worth the journey from Baltimore to see.

On Saturday the 7th of September we were great-

ly pleased with our visit to the weekly exhibition of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society at their Horticultural Hall. The number of articles of fruits, flowers and vegetables were not very large, but each article was choice of its kind. The cauliflowers were very fine—apples splendid—grapes not as fine as we expected to see; but there were some remarkably large and beautiful seedling peaches—although the day was rainy, the hall was full of visitors. We were struck with the good arrangement and perfect order that prevailed. The Library is one of the choicest and most valuable Pomological and Floral Libraries in the Country—indeed we may say it is the *best*. Our thanks are due to the Secretary for his courteous attention.

The pleasure of this visit was much curtailed by our time being so limited that we could not remain until the Hon. Marshall P. Wilder came in, that we might have renewed a long ago acquaintance with this venerable man, who is justly styled the father of Horticulture in America.

During our stay in Boston, we visited our friends Dr. Sturtevant in his office of "*The Scientific Farmer*," and Mr. Eaton, of the well known "*New England Farmer*" and were kindly received by them. We called on the Messrs. Hovey, and visited their famous old nursery and green-house in Cambridge. We greatly regretted to decline the invitation of Mr. Breck to visit his home, as we had only time to go over his very large seed and implement establishment, one of the best appointed and largest houses of the kind in the whole country—His courtesy and kind attentions were very gratifying to us—Indeed, we must say that all with whom we came in contact, were very polite and seemed warm-hearted toward us as Southerners—We were received everywhere as if the bond of brotherhood between North and South had never been broken but still existed as heartily as when the battles of Bunker Hill and Yorktown were fought.

THE NATIVE FLOWERS AND FERNS OF THE UNITED STATES, by Thomas Mehan and published by L. Prang & Co. Boston. The last four numbers of the 1st volume are received, with a neatly written preface and a table of contents accompanying the last number. These numbers increase in interest and value as they appear. When finished they will be a grand addition to the works on the flora of the Union. Every lover of the native flowers and ferns of America should possess a copy. Every young person studying Botany should have a copy of this very beautiful work, with its 48 colored pictures to each volume and elegantly written descriptions of each plant illustrated.

The Agricultural Congress of the United States.

The duties of the senior Editor, as Treasurer of the National Agricultural Congress, required his presence at the last session, which was held in New Haven, Connecticut, and he was delighted with his visit, and with meeting so many old friends and making personal acquaintance with so large a number of gentlemen distinguished in the sciences as applied to agriculture, and noted for practical knowledge in all the branches of agricultural pursuits.

The meeting was held in North Sheffield Hall, commencing on the 27th of August and lasting three days. Hon. Thomas P. Janes, of Atlanta, Ga., the president, called the meeting to order, and in the absence of Jonathan Periam, of Chicago, the secretary, Dr. E. L. Sturtevant, of South Framingham, Mass., acted in his place on motion of E. Whitman, of Maryland. A large number of members were present. Some were absent on account of sickness, and it was regretted that many others were kept away by the prevalence of yellow fever in their section of the country.

Professor Brewer welcomed the delegates, saying that Mayor Shelton's duties kept him from doing so. He reviewed at length the record of Connecticut people and Yale college in agriculture, and of the scientific study of the industry in the college, referring to the institution here of the first professorship of agriculture in the country, the work of Professor Atwater of the Wesleyan university, the importation of sheep by Humphrey, and the invention of the cotton gin by Whitney. He cordially invited the delegates to visit the Peabody museum, the college library, the art gallery, the scientific school, the factories and other objects of interest in this city, and offered the services of the local committee to assist them in passing the time agreeably.

For the delegates Colonel Yancy, of Georgia, responded, expressing his gratification at the gathering of even a few to discuss agricultural subjects, touching upon the necessity to the farmer of some scientific knowledge, eulogizing Whitney, the inventor of the cotton gin, and complimenting New Haven for its thrift and energy. Such gatherings as this had done a great deal of good, and he urged those present to attend them and support them, so that our natural resources may be fully developed.

After the noon recess the president opened the afternoon meeting with an excellent address upon the value of education in agriculture. He severely

criticised many of the agricultural schools and colleges in the country, emphasizing the value of practical field work in connection with theoretical instruction. Each school should have a complete farm connected with it. The instruction in many of these schools is so faulty that its results make practical people suspicious of book-farmers and book-farming. But what is greatly needed in agriculture is proper education in its science. "Educate" should be the farmers' watchword, for education alone will put agricultural art in its proper place, and will do much toward bringing to our country peace, prosperity and happiness.

E. E. Barney, Esq., of Dayton, O., read an interesting paper about the Catalpa Tree, of which we shall speak in a future number of the MARYLAND FARMER.

Hon. B. G. Northrop read a paper on the reclamation of the sand barrens of New England.

An instructive and pleasant discussion followed as to rye and various grasses for renovating worn out lands, in which Col. Yancy, Ga., Prof. Brewer, of New Haven, and Mr. Cheever of the "*New England Farmer*," took active parts.

On the 2d day, Mr. J. R. Dodge, Washington, D. C., delivered an eloquent eulogy on the life-work of Hon. Willard C. Flagg, late President of the National Agricultural Congress.

Following the address, Professor S. W. Shattuck, of Champaign, Ill., Professor in the Illinois Industrial University, read a paper on "Drainage on the Farm," relating chiefly to drainage in the West, offering various practical suggestions.

The next paper was by Prof. Eugene W. Hilgard, of the California Agricultural University, upon "The Relations of Science to Agriculture." It was read by Prof. Brewer, as the author was unable to come to this meeting.

In the afternoon, Dr. E. Lewis Sturtevant, editor of "*Scientific Farmer*," Boston, read an interesting Essay on "Thoughts on Agricultural Plant Fertilization."

Dr. J. T. Tichenor, President of the University of Alabama, followed by reading an able paper on "Soil exhaustion, its extent, its effects, and its remedy."

Ernest Th. Gennert, of Portland, Maine, next read a treatise on "Beet Sugar Culture in the United States."

On the third day, which was peculiarly interesting, Mr. J. J. Thomas, of Union Springs, N. Y., read an excellent paper on "Farm Buildings and other Improvements." Then came a very elaborate treatise on "Resources of the United States for Sheep Husbandry and the Wool Manufacture." It

consumed two hours in reading. Yet, was so well written and admirable that it secured the undivided attention of all present.

In the afternoon of the third and last day, Prof. W. H. Brewer read an admirable paper on "The Relations of Government to Agriculture"—to which we shall refer and give extracts from at another time.

On a motion to adjourn, President Janes made a short but eloquent address, put the motion and declared the Congress adjourned. The next meeting will be held in Nashville early in 1879.

We cannot close this brief statement of the proceedings of this Congress without expressing our admiration of the strenuous efforts made by the local committee of arrangements, Messrs. Brewer, Mitchell and Gold, for the comfort of visiting members, and for the success of the meeting, which owes its great success largely to those efforts. This committee was homogenous in their avocations and sentiments, and each in his peculiar line, alike distinguished for his knowledge, learning and attainment in both the practice and literature of agriculture. Professor Brewer at their head, worked unceasingly, and received as he deserved, universal praise. To him and his associates and other friends, we tender our unfeigned thanks for the many evidences of kind courtesy extended to us.

While in this nursery of learning—New Haven—we examined the *first* cotton gin Whitneу ever made complete, in 1803, now in the basement of the Sheffield Scientific School building. It has 40 saws, and in principle is the same as now in use. It was manufactured in a small shop, within a few miles of New Haven, and is really a great curiosity. It brings to mind the marvelous inventions and almost perfections of machinery, which has resulted partly from the stimulus given to the inventive creation of this great labor-saving machine of Whitneу, which has been one of the wonders of the world.

Through the kindness of Chas. Dickerman, Esq., we were invited, along with Mr. Barry, of Rochester, N. Y., to take a ride around the suburbs of New Haven, and were charmed with what we realized as fairy land. There are no private residences in the vicinity of Baltimore to be compared to the suburban residences around classic New Haven. Each one seems to be a marked domicil of some great historian, poet, literateur or scientist. During our ride, we visited the beautiful place of Donald G. Mitchell—the famous writer—who has, by his exquisite pen portraits, won so many hearts to a love of rural life. There in his home of ease and rural loveliness, we were most sociably entertained by him and his highly accomplished and

beautiful wife, once a denizen of the Sunny South. We would gladly have spent the whole day in this lovely retreat, as we were warmly pressed to do, but business peremptorily called us back to town. On our return, we stopped at the residence of our whilome townsman of Baltimore, Mr. Winchester, who has one of the most, if not the most lovely and superb places in this Northern City. We also passed the beautiful place of Mr. Maltby, who owns the fine, well kept hotel of that name in Baltimore, which made us feel for the moment as if we were at home, inasmuch as our office is just opposite the famous "Maltby House" on Pratt street Baltimore. We should have been pleased to have looked over Mr. Maltby's fine place, but we learned he was at the sea-side enjoying in his ripe old age the invigorating influences of ocean.

The Maryland Horticultural Society.

This Society held its annual meeting in September at the armory of the Fifth Regiment of Md. N. G. of Baltimore. The arrangements were as perfect as possible, and better than ever before, and we are informed that Mr. Jno E. Feast is entitled to the credit of the plan.

From President Perot's address and the report of the Treasurer, R. W. L. Raisin Esq., we learn that the Society had about \$1000 in hand at the opening of the meeting, which, though encouraging, should have been five times as great, if there was that interest in the institution which ought to be felt by the merchants and others of the city and by persons in the rural districts. It is to be hoped that a larger number of country amateurs in flowers and fruits will become active members, and that hundreds who live in town who love flowers, will contribute their money and their influence to build up this useful Society.

The collections of plants and flowers were large and many rare and costly plants were exhibited. We were pleased to see the successful efforts to add to the charm of the scene made by several lady and boy exhibitors. The Society should feel largely indebted to Mr. J. Saul of Washington city, for his beautiful contribution of flowers, and fruits, and to the energetic superintendent of Patterson Park for his display. Mr. Hyde as usual made a grand show of the products from Boothby Hill.

Our crowded columns prevent a detailed account of the gratifying Exhibition, although the attendance of visitors was encouraging, yet the crowd was not as large as we expected and hoped to see.

Much credit is due to the efficient efforts of the whole executive Committee. The Maryland Farmer having been instrumental in originating this association will always cherish the liveliest feeling in its welfare.

Maryland Agricultural and Mechanical Association.

The ninth annual meeting of this society was held four days, from the 24th of September on their Pimlico grounds. The weather was very unpromising and perhaps that may in part be the reason that so small a crowd was seen each day. The officers of the Society had done all in their power to secure a grand display in every department and had succeeded to the fullest extent. It was we think the best exhibition ever gotten up in the state,—the arrangements of marshall Maynard in the field, Mr. Brackenridge and his accomplished daughter in the hall, with the help of the active president, secretary and executive committee, (assisted by the officers of the Carroll County Society,) in looking after whatever was required to be done. They secured the services of a noble and popular Orator, and yet not many over 2000 people were present at any one time during the entire four days. This does not speak well for the enterprise of Baltimore nor for the zeal of farmers in sustaining the agricultural interest.

The show of horses and cattle was large and equal if not superior in qualities to a like number ever exhibited in this country. The hogs were numerous and superb. The sheep were fair to very good. Poultry in great number and great variety of breeds, and choice specimens of the different kinds.

There were acres devoted to machinery and agricultural implements of endless variety and suited to all sorts of farm and garden work. It was a highly creditable mechanical display. In the Hall the products of the farm, garden, dairy, apiary and household industry and skilled handi-work were many and various, making a beautiful exhibition. At the lower end of the hall there was a good show of pigeons by N. W. Caughy, and Mr. J. B. Dorsey showed a wire nest, a novel coop, ingenious feed box and a convenient drinking fountain for the poultry yard, all of which received premiums.

On Thursday, United States Senator, Thos F. Bayard, of Delaware, delivered a splendid address which was greatly applauded. We shall publish it in our next number. Mr. Merryman in introducing Senator Bayard, took occasion to thank the exhibitors, on the part of the association, for the interest they had taken in the fair. He said in an experience of thirty years he had never seen a show of as many good animals. He specially commended the enterprise of the exhibitors in the machinery and implement deportment. Before another year he hoped to see a railroad station at

the grounds, so that visitors and exhibits could reach there at such small rates as would insure beyond doubt the success of the association in the future.

ANNUAL MEETING.

A largely attended meeting of members of the Maryland State Agricultural and Mechanical Association was held at night in Raine's Hall, Ezra Whitman in the chair, T. B. Dorsey secretary. Mr. Washington Booth moved that the election of officers be held, and Mr. Joseph H. Rieman raised the point that the meeting was not constitutional, as another date is provided for the annual election. The chair stated that the society had always elected officers on the evening of the third day of the exhibition, and it was an established custom. The meeting by a large vote decided to go into the election, and Mr. Rieman and two or three others entered their protest. The result of the election was as follows: President John Merryman; corresponding secretary, S. H. Slifer; general secretary and treasurer, T. B. Dorsey; executive committee, Oden Bowie, R. F. Maynard, C. K. Harrison, H. B. Holton, Robert Moore, G. W. Harris, David L. Bartlett, Wm. R. Devries and Frank Brown. Sixty ballots were cast. On motion of Mr Booth the vice-presidents, representing each county and the District of Columbia were re-elected, except that Mr. Henry D. Farnandis, of Harford county, succeeds the late Mr. Ramsay Mc Henry. Adjourned.

We regret that we cannot in this number publish the list of awards of premiums which is *legion*, owing to not having room for a large amount of equally interesting matter we are forced to let lie over.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

From Ellwanger & Barry their elegant new fruit catalogue, containing a colored picture of the Sharpless Strawberry and fine engravings of some new and rare fruits, such as apples and pears, and their splendid Conkling and Waterloo peaches, and their own new seedling grapes—*Rochester* and early *Monroe*. Those who wish to add to their collection could not do better than send to this old firm for new varieties.

From J. C. Schmidt, his nursery catalogue, Erfurt, Germany.

The *Poultry World* for September, and "Weekly American Poultry Yard, H. H. Stoddard, Proprietor, Harford, Conn. are very attractive and full of useful information to poultry raisers and readers in general. They are handsomely illustrated papers.

HORTICULTURAL.

Large Watermelons :—In passing through the Hanover market last week, we saw on the stalls of Mr. Henry Harrison—dealer in fruits and vegetables, two unusually large melons, and he assured us that he sent not long since to Chicago, two of what are known as North Carolina rattlesnakes melons, raised in Anne Arundel Co., which weighed 62 and 68 pounds, respectively. But the Mobile Register speaks of weighing one, which turned the scales at eighty-one and a half pounds. This was from seed of the "Cuban Queen," very like the Rattlesnake melon in general appearance, but different in many peculiarities—Gov. Reed, of Florida, editor of the Semi-Tropical brought the seed from Cuba and named it *Cuban Queen*—Large numbers of this kind of melons weigh 40 lbs. and upward. We are anxious to see this new melon tried in this region along with the popular Rattlesnake and the Taylor Gray—the latter being one of the finest flavored and solid of all kinds of this superb fruit.

GROWING CHESTNUTS.

We have on repeated occasions suggested the growing of chesnuts upon soils where but little else will grow, as a means of profit, both in fruit and wood. The chestnut is rapid in its growth, and will in from eight or ten years begin to bear a crop of nuts from the seed. This seed, however, should be planted as soon as the fruit is ripe and before it becomes dry, and should be planted where the tree is desired to stand. Chestnuts will thrive almost anywhere, and would be especially valuable where timber is scarce, and rough land abounds to appropriate to the purpose. A good selection of the American chestnut is the best. Our nuts are much superior in quality to the Spanish, French or Italian, though not nearly so large, and even grafts can be set with the ease and certainty of the pear. There is always a market demand for the nuts greater than the supply, or any supply likely to be furnished.—*Germantown Telegraph*.

REMEDY FOR BLIGHT IN TREES :—MR. WM. SAUNDERS, Superintendent of the Agricultural Grounds at Washington, says he has been experimenting a long time to try to prevent blight, and whether or not he has an infallible remedy he is unable to determine; he only knows that for ten years he has painted or washed apple and pear trees once or twice a year with lime whitewash strongly impregnated with sulphur, and such trees have thus far escaped the blight, though it has appeared in the adjacent orchards.

A New Cherry.

CHARLES DOWNING communicates to the Gardener's Monthly the following description of a new cherry:

The Ida cherry, a new and a very promising early cherry, raised by E. H. Cocklin, of Shepards-town, Cumberland Co., Pa., who kindly sent me by express, a liberal supply which came in good condition, although fully ripe and of tender flesh. Mr. Cocklin informs me that it is a seedling of the Cocklin's Favorite, about twenty-years old, and having borne good crops for fifteen years, is considered worthy of general introduction. The tree is a vigorous, upright grower, and an abundant bearer, ripening about the same time as the May Duke. It is named after his daughter Ida.

Fruit rather large, obtuse conical, slightly compressed, stature slight; skin pale whitish-yellow, nearly covered with light bright red, more or less mottled, stalk of medium length, slender, inserted in a rather large deep cavity; flesh very tender, juicy, rich, good, if not best quality, pit very small.

Propagating Plants by Cuttings.

The season is approaching when this mode of increase is practiced by those wishing to do so. The class of plants capable of increase by cutting is very large, including among trees, catalpa, mulberry, cottonwood, lombardy poplar, and many others, as well as currants, gooseberries, grapes, blackberry roots, quinces, and frequently apples and pears, as well as roses, wiegelea rosea, snow ball or viburnum, and many of the ornamental plants. By far the best mode of doing this is to take off the cuttings in fall, and bury all winter in a dry place in the ground. An acquaintance takes off currant cuttings very early,—as soon as the leaves drop in August or September,—buries them, and plants out next spring. He claims that they then grow better than if set out with well-formed roots.—*T. in Prairie Farmer*.

Maryland Herefords in New York.

At our request the Hon. John Merryman furnishes us a statement of the successful competition of his cattle at the great State Fair of New York for 1878.

HAYFIELDS, SEPT. 28TH, 1878.

Editors of the Maryland Farmer:—The following premiums were awarded my Herefords at the New York State Fair at Elmira:

Herd Society's Gold Medal, value	\$60
Bull, Illinois	50
Cow, Giantess	30
Heifer, Polly Carter, 2 yrs.	30
" Princess Victoria, 2d,	30
Fat Steer	30
1 Cow	15
1 Heifer	15
	\$260

Yours truly, JOHN MERRYMAN,

Extracts from a letter of the senior Editor to
the Maryland Farmer.

THE MAINE FARMER:—While in the capital of the State of Maine, of course, I called at the office of the "Maine Farmer," to which paper I have been a subscriber for 46 years and 42 weeks, the entire time of its publication. Here, I met its present editor, Samuel L. Boardman Esq., who is not only in every sense a perfect gentleman, but one of the most diligent and sensible agricultural writers who makes his paper always one of the most welcome among our numerous exchanges. But while enjoying his pleasant company, a sad thought came over me, the remembrance of one we used to meet in this office, our old friend Dr. E. Holmes, who was one of the best informed men of our country upon all subjects connected with agriculture. I referred to a long and pleasant acquaintance with my distinguished friend, who has finished his honorable course of life on earth and tho' dead' yet lives in his works. Mr. Boardman kindly presented me a large, finely executed photograph of Dr. Holmes, which I shall have framed properly, and with which, grace the wall of the office of the Maryland Farmer.

I owe many thanks to Mr. Boardman for his very kind attentions to me during my stay in Augusta. It was through his politeness I was introduced to the great publishing house of True & Co. This is a most extensive and wonderful enterprise. I had no idea that there was anything of this sort on so extensive a scale in the State of Maine I shall take pleasure in speaking more fully in the future of the great operations of this large printing establishment and of the various papers and journals it publishes.

E. W.

Augusta, September 2, 1878.

NEW ENGLAND.

We take from our valued exchange, the *Floral and Fruit Magazine*—S. D. Curtis, Editor, Washington City,—the following note-worthy letter from its correspondent "Flora," who was once one of those ladies who so brightened the columns of the *MARYLAND FARMER* in its "Ladies Department," and whom we regret so much that we did not have the honor to meet when we were in Worcester, her home. It would have heightened our pleasure to have met our whilome correspondent in her native home—Worcester, "the beautiful summer city"—Her pretty descriptions of that town and the villages, are such truthful and cor-

rect pen pictures, that we give them rather than attempt a drawing of our own.

"Your useful monthly is received by me, and is placed in my travelling satchel for reading *en-route* in my summer trip to New England. We are now having very comfortable weather after the grand thunder-storm on Sunday; the air is cooler since. You would enjoy the view, so extensive, of grand old hills and finely cultivated farms, from our home; in the groves and along the streams the robins and bob-o-links and orioles are very neighborly, and find a welcome for their sweet songs.

Worcester is a beautiful summer city, and a busy winter one—beautiful parks, drives, and dwellings in all directions. And they have a live and lively Horticultural Society, which gives frequent exhibitions of fruits and flowers. I am proud of my native city, and enjoy my cosmopolitan tastes, acquired by living in different places.

The evidences of general advancement in *rural taste* are seen everywhere, even in the beautiful parks and *parterres*, at the R. R. depots, and around the switch tenders' lodges—all presenting bowers of shrubs and vines and flowers. These rural exhibitions are softening and refining in their influences, it may be insensibly, but none the less surely; and I suggest that you advocate in your pages the European custom of planting the seeds of fruit trees along the highways and waysides, where tired and hungry travellers will be refreshed and utter thanks. In our covetousness to multiply the dollars, we are too apt to forget these sweet charities, and ignore such public benefits.

But passing through this park-like region, old New England presents the appearance of peace, prosperity, and plenty; every house-holder appears to have flowers, fruits, and vegetables in abundance. Would your readers believe the story of fourteen strawberries making a quart to be a Munchausen? Yet I am told such is the truth. You should see some of our smoking and patriotic kettles of red, white and blue sweet corn; all are delicious. [In earlier days the Editor has seen in old Genesee red, white and blue corn in the pot, all nice, smoking and hot.] All of them served nice and warm on one plate for dinner is a novel and interesting sight, aside from the name and association."

FLORA

Worcester, Mass.

THE *Maryland Farmer*, published by Ezra Whitman, at No. 141 W. Pratt st., Baltimore, is one of the best conducted agricultural journals of the country. Although it is in its fifteenth volume, and while its pages show the wisdom that experience always can give, the *Farmer* yet retains the sprightliness of youth. Long may it continue to be a welcome visitor to the homes of our farmers.—*Rockville Advocate*.

LADIES DEPARTMENT.**Chat with the Ladies for October.**

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

"Sweet is the voice that calls
From bubbling waterfalls
In meadows where the downy seeds are flying;
And soft the breezes blow
And eddying come and go
In faded gardens where the rose is dying.

Among the stubbled corn
The blithe quail pipes at morn
The merry partridge drums in hidden places;

And glittering insects gleam

Above the ready stream

Where busy spiders spin their filmy laces.

At eve, cool shadows fall
Across the garden wall,
And on the clustered grapes to purple turning,
And pearly vapors lie
Along the eastern sky
Where the broad harvest-moon is redly burning.

Ah, soon on field and hill
The winds shall whistle chill,
And patriarch swallows call their flocks together,
To fly from frost and snow
And seek for lands where blow
The fairer blossoms of a balmier weather.

The pollen-dusted bees
Search for the honey-lee
That linger in the last flowers of September,
While plaintive mourning doves
Coo sadly to their loves
Of the dead summer they so well remember.

The cricket chirps all day,
"O, fairest summer, stay!"
The squirrel eyes askance the chesnuts browning;
The wild-fowl fly far
Above the foamy bar

And hasten southward ere the skies are frowning.

Now comes a fragrant breeze
Through the dark cedar-trees
And round about my temples fondly lingers,
In gentle playfulness
Like to the soft caress
Bestowed in happier days by loving fingers.

Yet, though a sense of grief
Comes with the falling leaf,
And memory makes the summer doubly pleasant,
In all my autumn dreams
A future summer gleams
Passing the fairest glories of the present."

These lines are a pretty and very natural picture of nature as we see it usually in this region about the close of September and first of October, but this has been an exceptionable year. Except one or two cool days after the equinox, we had a very warm September, and so seasonable all the year that the vegetation has been as green and and rank as in May. Hence, many have probably neglected to prepare their plants for a winter bloom in the house, conservatory, or pit. Those who have failed to put out cuttings and place flowering plants in pots, should do so at once, and set out this month all hardy bulbs they desire for next year, such as hyacinths, tulips, crocus, iris, bleeding heart, &c. Let me advise you to to set out a supply of the lily of the valley, snow drops, snow flake and scilla. The snow flake is like the snow drop, but much larger and more robust in habit. It is often called St. Agnes's flower, because from its purity it has been dedicated to the patron Saint of young virgins—St. Agnes. On the lawn set one or more, singly, Pyracantha: it grows symmetrically from the ground, presenting a pyramid of snowy blossoms in spring, and a mass of coral berries in autumn and winter. It is a desirable object on a lawn for its hardiness and beauty. Be sure and have a plenty of violets, cowslips and crocus, and with those plants just spoken of, you can always have a lovely bouquet in early spring, sometimes even when the snow is on the ground.

After close confinement and hard work during our long hot summer it was a great pleasure and restorative recreation to take three weeks holiday, first in old Virginia, and then at the North. I will be excused if I tell you something of the scenes and sights I met with during that delightful time.

In company with a whole-souled friend, we went to the Shenandoah Valley, celebrated for its splendid scenery and the triumphs of rural life in peace, as well as renowned for the great battles that were fought, during our late unhappy family quarrel, in this lovely Valley, which seemed to be selected as the theatre of war and the field of blood, where the loftiest deeds of heroism were to be performed. Nearly every foot of this fertile plain has now a history of some bold strategy of defender or invader; of some knightly deed or gallant exploit, or presents memorials of some terrible battle between great armies—victory alternating between the two opposing forces. During two years or more, there was fighting, skirmishing, maneuvering, by squads, battallions and large armies, and many individual exploits performed that throw in the shade the heroic feats of knights recorded in the ancient Rolls of Chivalry.

From the moment we reach Harper's Ferry, where stands the little stone house, marked "John Brown's Fort"—the misguided old fanatic who lit the first torch of war, though it took some time to kindle into that blaze which partly consumed the North and nearly brought the South to irredeemable destruction—all the way to Staunton, the whole of this rich and very beautiful Valley, is classic, historic ground, and forever to find a prominent place in American history. The ravages of war laid it waste and more than decimated its gallant inhabitants. Yet the few who survived, with the same undeterred energy with which they fought for their rights and their homes, have under a kind Providence, and helped by the natural powers of the soil, with a mild climate, almost reinstated their prosperity beneath the cherishing wings of a blessed Peace. Houses and fences have been re-built, the lands tilled and restored to their former fertility, and once again peace, plenty and contentment reign. The famed old Virginia hospitality, for a time obscured, we found, as warmly and profusely practiced as ever before. We were entertained with the greatest kindness by Gen. Meem and his accomplished lady, at his residence, Strathmoor. The Shenandoah runs between his mansion and that of his brother, Capt. John Meem during the war, now a General of Virginia State Militia. We visited him and his charming lady, and were received as kindly as if we had been one of his brother's family. His is also a beautiful place, lying seemingly, at the foot of the mountain range which is the eastern boundary of the Valley. Just here the vale is a mile wide, with the river running on one side and a creek on the other; high lands stretching west, though a part of the great Valley, and the beautiful mountains rising in the distance on each side, as if nature had brought the naked Hudson Palisades here, clothed with verdure, to enclose and protect this wonderful Shenandoah Valley.

Gen'l John Meem owns the house built long ago and occupied by the famous Steinberger, Cattle King, or millionaire, who at one time monopolized the entire cattle market of this country. The view from this residence is perfectly exquisite, and the building commodious, with lofty ceilings and large rooms. In one of these we saw exquisite statuary, one of the best was a full length statue of a coquette, by a native Virginian, Mr. Barbour—a young lawyer—who would have been among the greatest artists of the world had he lived.

These brothers own large farms and have their fields covered with flocks and herds of superior sheep and cattle, besides great numbers of cattle and sheep bought yearly for grazing. The land is

so fertile that the natural and cultivated grasses grow in luxuriance. It was a pleasant, self satisfying sight at early morn to see the sun rising over the terraced ramparts of this nature protected Virginia Eden, shedding its golden rays over the heavily rain-laden clouds that rested on the lofty mountain peaks ere they poured their fluids over the rich corn and grass covered plains below, which lay almost level with the silvery waters of the Shenandoah. Go where you will in this lovely vale you will meet with beauty all around—the grandest scenery, the richest soils, the greatest kindness—prodigality of welcome! with elegant entertainment, enhanced by the winning association of noble and beautiful ladies of refinement and education. No lady or gentleman can go to the Shenandoah Valley without at once feeling that they are at home, and look upon it as a very haven of rest and delight.

MY NORTHERN TRIP.

After a delightful sea voyage via Norfolk, Va., we entered the beautiful Boston Harbor, the 1st of September, on a glorious Sabbath evening, amid a great crowd of ships and craft of all sizes, with a scenic back ground of much beauty. Before the sun went down we were threading our way in the streets of classic Boston—historic Boston!—to "mine inn." The next Sunday was spent on the dark blue waves of the Atlantic Ocean, where we were out of sight of all land and its people and their habitations—only water below and around us, and the bright sky above us. 'Tis a curious and intensely interesting sight to a landsman to see the great luminary come right up as it seems out of the blue depths, and have its bright face cut into fantastic shapes by intervening streaks of a dark cloud. It seemed to be in a partial eclipse, and then divided into two half globes by the black streak as if it were a broad belt across its disc. It was a sight not easily to be forgot. The next time I saw it rise, there was no cloud that crossed it, but it arose as a great dark red ball, as the moon sometimes looks when storm or wind is conjectured. It is a grand sight to see the sun rise on the ocean.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

WHAT I HAVE SEEN.—An old man of experience says:

I have seen a farmer travel about so much that there was nothing at home worth looking at.

I have seen a man spend more money in folly than would support his family in comfort and independence.

I have seen a prudent and industrious wife retrieve the fortune of a family, when the husband pulled at the other end of the rope.

I have seen a young girl marry a man of dissolute habits, and repent for it as long as she lived.

A PROTEST.

We have received a communication from Messrs. E. Whitman, Sons & Co., in regard to what they deem a gross neglect on the part of the Executive Committee of the Maryland Agricultural and Mechanical Society at its late annual Exhibition. It comes too late for this number of the MARYLAND FARMER, but it may be inserted in the November number, as we desire to see full justice done in all such matters, taking care that the merits of both sides of the question be alone set forth, free from all personalities.

These gentlemen complain that they left with the Secretary a protest for examination by the Executive Committee, on Wednesday, the second day of the meeting, (the proper day for that purpose) but no action was taken until Friday, the last day of the Fair, and that action was not reported to them until the evening of the second of October, one week after it should have been, and then, by letter dated 30th September but postmarked 2d October; and this letter of the Corresponding Secretary states that the protest or paper had been mislaid, withdrawn, or otherwise removed from the office of the Society.

These protestants say, if such carelessness is a specimen of the usual way matters are conducted by the Executive Committee of the State Society, is it to be wondered at, that so few people are seen at the Exhibitions.

The disappearance of the Protest is so mysterious, that it would seem not the result of accident, but intentional wrong on the part of some one as yet unknown.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Life and Health: Physical, Mental and Moral. It is well gotten up, and at a low price for the amount of instructive matter it contains. We wish the editor, Dr. Hicks, Wernersville; Berks Co., Pa., great success in this new departure of modern journalism.

Monthly Report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, for May, June, July and August, 1878. It is full of interesting statistics and facts in respect of that growing and enterprising State.

Bee Culture, or Successful Management of the Apiary, by Thomas G. Newman, editor of the American Bee Journal. Price 40 cents.

Vick's Illustrated Monthly Magazine, for September, was received on the first day of that month, and is as usual prompt, elegant in every respect, highly illustrated, and the cheapest book that is to be had for a centre-table ornament and instruction.

Agricultural Fairs.

The Seventh Annual Fair of the Piedmont Society will be held on the Fair Grounds, at Culpeper, Va., the 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th October, 1878.

The great State Fair of Virginia will begin, at the Fair Grounds, Richmond, on Tuesday, October 29th, 1878. They offer an unusually long list of premiums, and among which is \$150 for first and second premiums to the best *lady riders*. This is a notable and great feature in the programme, which should be imitated by every Society of like character in the whole country. The encouragement of horse-back exercise among the daughters of the land is of more value to our race as a free people than all the values attached to improved stock.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF BREEDERS OF SHORT HORNS will hold its Seventh Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tenn., beginning October 30th, 1878. This is a very important Association, and is usually well attended.

THE BALTIMORE MECHANICAL INSTITUTE has opened, and will be open for 30 days. It is better worth seeing than ever before. Everybody in the State should visit its fine exhibition of the progress of mechanical invention and arts in our midst.

Official Estimate of the Tobacco Crop of 1878.

The Department of Agriculture at Washington, in its August report, makes the following statement relative to the tobacco crops:—The twelve largest tobacco-growing States report the following condition of the crops in August, viz:—Kentucky 80, a falling off during July of 13; Virginia 80, a loss of 13; Missouri 95, a loss of 6; Tennessee 85, a loss of 4; Maryland 87, a loss of 15; Pennsylvania 85, a loss of 15; North Carolina 84, a loss of 10; Ohio 96, a loss of 9; Illinois 88, a loss of 5; Indiana 75, a loss of 17; Connecticut 105, a gain of 5; Massachusetts 105, a gain of 4. The present aspects of the crops indicate a greatly reduced production, even upon the small acreage of 1878. It will be seen that the tobacco field of the Connecticut Valley is the only one that shows any improvement during the month of July. In all other parts of the great tobacco belt the crops have fallen off, and the present aspects indicate a greatly reduced product. In Virginia and North Carolina the season has been unpropitious, and the crops have been generally injured by drouth. In some districts of Tennessee only half a crop has been planted, and in West Virginia the planters have mostly restricted the production to their own necessities. In Kentucky the crops have been partly reduced by excessive rains in June, and only about fifty per cent. of last years aggregate will be obtained.

BALTIMORE MARKETS--Oct., 1.

This Market Report is carefully made up every month, and farmers may rely upon its correctness.

Apples, New York, per bbl.	1 50	a 2 00
do. country do.		
Bark—The market steady and unchanged, No. 1 \$25; No. 2 at \$12a20 per ton.		
Beans—Medium to choice,.....	1 75	a 1 80
Beeswax—Prices steady at.....	0 24	
Broom Corn—Medium to choice.....	0 06	a 0 08
Butter—For table use.....	0 18	a 0 24
" Cooking and bakery.....	0 10	a 0 14
" Near by receipts.....	0 18	a 0 28
Cheese—N. Y. State.....	0 90	a 1 00
" Western.....		a 9
Cotton—Demand is good.....	10 24	a 11 1/2
Eggs—Different localities.....	0 17	a 0 18
Fertilizers—Jobbing rates are here quoted. Contracts for large orders can be made at reduced figures. 2,000 lbs. to the ton.		
Peruvian Guano.....	\$50	0 02a65 00
Turner's Excelsior.....	\$50	00
" Ammonia Sup. Phos.....	40	00
Soluble Pacific Guano.....	45	00
Rasin's & Co's Sol. S. Is. Guano.....	50	00
Excellenza Soluble Phosphate.....	50	00
" Cotton Fertilizer.....	50	00
J. M. Rhodes & Co's Ammoniated Phosphate.....	45	00
Poppleton's Silicated Phosphate of Lime.....	8	00
Zell's Ammon. Bone Super Phos.....	45	00
Whitman's Phosphate.....	45	00
Missouri Bone Meal.....	40	00
Plaster.....	per bbl.	1 75
Orchilla Guan A. per ton	30	00
South Sea Guano.....	50	00
Slingluff & Co Dissolved Raw Bone.....	45	00
Slingluff & 's Dissolved Bone Ash.....	40	00a22 00
Whitman's Potato Phosphate.....	45	00
" Dissolved Missouri Bone.....	45	00
" Bone Ash.....	40	00
Feathers—Live Geese.....	0 40	a 0 45
Grain—Corn.....	0 48	a 0 57
Oats.....	0 27	a 0 30
Rye.....	0 50	a 0 52
Wheat.....	50	a 1 10
Potatoes—		
Early Rose, per bushel.....	a	
Peerless, per bus.....	30	a 0 40
Peach Blow, per bbl.....	30	a 0 40
Sweet Potatoes per bbl.....	90	a 1 10
Live Stock—Beef Cattle.....	0 02	a 0 04
" Hogs, fat.....	4	00 a 5 00
" Sheep.....	3	00a3 50
Seeds—Clover scarce and in demand.		
Clover Alsike.....	3	b 1 50c
do Lucerne best.....	50c	
do Red, Choice.....	8a3/4	
do White.....	50c	
Flaxseed.....	b bush.	a1 00
Grass Red Top.....	b bush.	1,00a1.25
do Orchard.....	1.40a	
do Italian Rye.....	3.50	
do Hungarian.....		
do German Millet, per bus.....		
do Ordinary.....		
do Timothy 45 lb.....	1.65a1.90	
do Kentucky Blue.....	1.50a1.75	
Tobacco—LEAF—		
Maryland—Frosted.....	\$1	50a
do. sound common.....	2	00a3 00
do. good do.....	5	00a 8 50
do. middling.....	4	00 a 5 00
do. good to fine red.....	10	00a15 00
do. fancy.....	12	00a15 00
Virginia—common and good lugs.....	8	50a10 00
do. common to medium leaf.....	10	00a13 00
do. fair to good.....	13	00a16 00
Wool—For Tub-waahed, 38a40 cents, unwashed 9.83 cents per lb.		

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 " " 12 to 14 "

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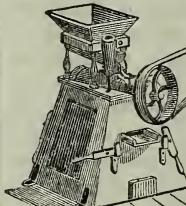
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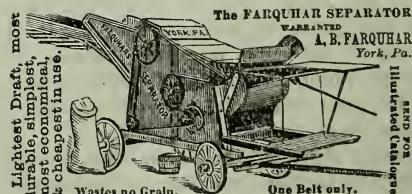
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